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NOTES OF THE WEEK.

THE sex of a newspaper, unlike that of a ship, has never been determined. It is apparently masculine rather than feminine, for we observe that no newspaper ever objects to telling its age, and the older it is the more it glories in it. Our honored contemporary of England, the *Army and Navy Gazette*, says in its issue of January 8d: "It is just twenty-five years since the *Army and Navy Gazette* published its first number. The anniversary—our silver wedding—justifies a few observations to our friends and readers,—the number of whom has, we are proud to say, grown with our growth, year after year, till to-day the sale of the *Army and Navy Gazette* largely exceeds that of all the other service journals put together." We heartily congratulate the *Gazette* upon its prosperity. It is something more than three years our senior, and the proof it gives of increased vitality and prosperity, as it grows older, is a hopeful augury for us. It is a well understood fact that a newspaper never suffers from opposition; if it decay it is from a paralysis of its own energies. The crowing of youthful rivals, which deceives no one, not even themselves, is less the habit abroad than in this country, and the numerous journals that have entered the same field as the *Gazette* have gone on quietly about their business, seeking to live and let live. The latest of these has justly subjected itself to criticism by seeking to take advantage of the *Gazette* in the manner alluded to by the representative of the French military service, the *Bulletin de la Reunion des Officiers*, when it says: "It seems to us that this sheet, a rival of the *Army and Navy Gazette*, its elder by twenty-five years, need not have adopted a size and general arrangement absolutely like those of the representative of the old Army, and could thus have avoided a possible confusion, which might by the ill-disposed be thought to be somewhat intentional."

CHARACTER is as distinct a quality in a newspaper as it is in an individual, and a paper succeeds through a certain individuality which secures for it the confidence and respect of its constituency, however they may find occasion to criticise particular utterances. And the character once impressed upon a paper remains with it, through subsequent changes of direction, as witness the London *Times* abroad, the New York *Times* and the *Herald* in this country, founded by the dead RAYMOND and BENNETT. Newspapers, to succeed, must seek to establish a distinctive character of their own, and not merely to copy the characteristics of older sheets which may be supposed to explain their success. It is not the men who wear a forelock like NAPOLEON, or whose heads are shaped like that of WEBSTER, who are heard of beyond the limited circle of their acquaintance, but those whose genius and ability establish a new type. We may, in conclusion, adopt the language used by our contemporary in its address to its readers and say: "The solid opinion of the Army has been, on the whole, on our side. It will be our ambition to maintain the reputation we have won—to carry out our programme to the end, resisting change for change's sake, welcoming all reform for good. We begin a new year, full of confidence in the genius of the race and in the courage, skill and conduct of the great services, by and through whom

the glory and power of this Empire is maintained, to meet the trials and the dangers which manifestly lie before us, believing that, as in times past, we may rely on the same protection which has been vouchsafed to us when enemies compassed us round about, and that we shall in the end obtain 'a happy issue out of all our difficulties.' Amen!"

THE proposition of Senator VOORHEES and Representative MCCOMAS to give the thanks of Congress to Commander SCHLEY, and the other officers and men of the GREELY Relief Expedition, has provoked considerable comment. It appears to be a prevalent idea that such a vote of thanks carries with it certain distinguished honors and rewards which have hitherto been reserved for deeds done in the face of the enemy. Investigation of the law on this subject does not however bear out this supposition; for it is only to officers who receive the thanks of Congress "upon recommendation of the President, by name," that advancement one grade is possible; and in the cases in which this recommendation has been made it has been with a specific view to the promotion of those mentioned. (See Sec. 1508, Rev. Stat.) Nor can the recipient of a simple vote of thanks remain on the active list beyond the age of sixty-two; for this exception is made only for "officers not below the grade of commander," who upon the Presidential recommendation by name received the thanks of Congress during the late War. (See Sec. 1446, Rev. Stat.) Should, therefore, the resolution be passed by both Houses, it would confer no additional naval honors upon those whom it mentions, but would only be a civil tribute to that "courage, zeal and judgment" which received complimentary mention in a General Order; which Order did not, however, imply that "extraordinary heroism," which under the law entitles one to the thirty numbers that the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, has the power to give; nor to the one grade and the ten years' extra time on the active list which one paper has stated would be in store for Commander SCHLEY and the others mentioned in the resolution referred to. Objection is made to the passage of the resolution on the ground that it is without precedent, a vote of thanks from Congress not being suggested in the case of previous relief expeditions. Neither HARTSTENE, in his search for KANE, nor GREER, in the *Tigress*, was mentioned for so great an honor. That the expedition accomplished its work well is already settled, and this will be the verdict of history; whether in the opinion of the Naval Committees that work was of such a nature as to demand the high honor of a vote of thanks from Congress is yet to be seen.

LIEUTENANT FREDERICK SCHWATKA seems to regret his somewhat hasty action in tendering his resignation, and is now, through influential friends, endeavoring to have it withdrawn. It takes effect January 31, when his year's leave of absence will have expired. A request has been made by a Senator to have his resignation cancelled, and when his leave expires place him on the retired list. When it was found that this could not be done an appeal was made to allow him to retain his commission. Had the application been made before the leave of absence had so nearly expired, it is probable that the request would have been granted, but under the circumstances it is doubtful if the Department will revoke its former order.

In his minority report on the bill for the relief of Commander JAMES H. SANDS, Representative THOMAS refers to the bill as an "old stager," which should never pass, and the bill for the relief of Commander SIGSBEE as a "stale claim." On both bills, and also on the bill for the relief of Commander GLASS, he adopts the minority reports made by Senator ROLINS on similar Senate bills in which their passage is so bitterly opposed.

OWING to the state of the business of the House, and the probable difficulty of the Naval Committee obtaining a day or evening for the consideration of its measures, there is little chance that the idea advanced by Mr. CHANDLER in his report, and formulated by Mr. MCADOO in his bill regulating promotion in the Navy, will become a law. Yet there is evidently great interest felt in it among the younger officers of the line, and several petitions in its favor are, we understand, in progress of preparation. We publish elsewhere a letter showing the arguments urged by the opponents of this measure.

THERE has recently been established in New York City a Real Estate Exchange, composed of five hundred of the leading representatives of the real estate interest, each of whom has contributed \$1,000 toward a capital of \$500,000, which has been expended upon a handsome building now approaching completion. Representing, as it does, an aggregate wealth of the most substantial character, amounting to three thousand millions of dollars, and including in its membership some of the best known and most influential citizens of New York, this Exchange is destined to exert an important influence. That they have intelligent appreciation of their interests has been shown by the passage of the following resolutions in the Committee on Legislation, one of the committee having general charge of the interests of the Exchange.

THE Memorial of the Real Estate Exchange and Auction Room (Limited) of the City of New York respectfully sheweth:

That the City of New York and the adjacent cities of Brooklyn and Jersey City represent an interest in house ownership and real estate amounting to \$3,000,000,000, that all this realty is entirely unprotected from an attack by a hostile fleet, which could bombard the city and the neighboring populated districts without even entering the Narrows. That here are now no works or guns to protect our harbor in case of the outbreak of a war, nor could the necessary defences be constructed in less than two years' time.

As it is known abroad as well as at home that the shores of this country are entirely unprotected, it would be only an act of reasonable precaution that New York, the chief city of the nation, should be defended by such permanent forts, floating batteries gunboats and a torpedo service as will give us a guarantee against sudden invasion, until the country should have time to build an adequate fleet for defensive purposes.

Your memorialists submit that even in the event of threatened complications with foreign powers, such as might arise out of the foreign treaties now under the consideration of your Honorable Body, that the freedom from panic which a policy of defensive fortifications would secure would more than compensate for the required outlay.

In view of the above facts your memorialists earnestly pray your Honorable Body that you will take such steps and vote such appropriations as shall be requisite to place the chief city of the nation, in wealth, population, and importance, in a condition of safety, whatever foreign complications may arise.

Resolved, That the above memorial be engrossed, and that the officers of the Board of Directors be asked to send it to one of our United States Senators and one of our City Representatives in Congress.

Resolved, That a printed copy of this memorial be also sent to the Stock, Produce, Mining, Cotton, Petroleum, Maritime, Metal, Coffee, Grocers, Merchant and other Exchanges, asking them to co-operate with this Exchange and the Chamber of Commerce in bringing this important matter to the early attention of Congress.

These resolutions were presented by Mr. David G. Croly, Chairman of the sub-committee on Fed-

ral Relations, and editor of the organ of the real estate interests in the press, the *Real Estate Record*. The passage of these resolutions by a committee representing so influential a body of citizens, and the passage of similar resolutions by the New York Chamber of Commerce, is proof, if any were wanting, that the chief city of the Union is alive to the dangers to which the neglect of Congress is subjecting it, in common with our other seaboard cities. That its apprehension does not swell to the dimensions of a violent outbreak of indignation, is due to the fact that so many are oblivious of the fact that the forts they see rising so majestically on the islands in the harbor are of no more use in defence than so many card houses.

New York City alone pays a larger proportion of the public taxes than most of the States, and hence no inconsiderable portion of any expenditure for public defences, but it is not from her or her representatives in Congress that the opposition to this most necessary outlay comes. In the debate of last winter upon the Fortification Appropriation bill Mr. HEWITT, of New York, said: "I am not opposed, and never shall be opposed, to providing adequate defences for this country against its possible enemies, though I trust we shall never have to use these weapons of defence. . . . Hereafter, when experiments now in progress have taught us how to spend the money effectively, I shall be glad to vote for such liberal appropriations as the best interests of the country, and, as I believe, the voice of the people, will require." Mr. COX, though somewhat flighty in his notions as to what was needed, showed a similar disposition, and Mr. DORSHEIMER, of New York, said: "People say, Why is this question a pressing one now when it was not pressing a year ago? It was a pressing question a year ago. It is none the less a pressing question now. And I cannot understand how any man with the heart of a patriot in his breast can help treating it as a pressing, nay, an imperative question always. . . . I hope we shall always be able to find our relations with foreign governments those of friendship. But I propose that this House shall do what will be most effectual to keep those relations friendly by making not an extravagant but a proper and timely appropriation for warlike defence." In the same spirit, Mr. FINERTY, of Illinois, said: "Sir, I abhor this spirit of economy practiced to the extent of niggardliness. It not alone imperils, but it degrades the glory and the patriotism of the nation."

Mr. HOAR, of Massachusetts, said: "Our condition is well known to foreign nations. The absolutely defenceless condition of all our coast is well known abroad. The late Minister of Foreign Affairs in France said to one of our own statesmen not long since, 'How about your defences? In the intelligence department of our war office,' said he, 'we have a drawing of every military work of consequence on the whole American coast line, with comments on their strength. There is not a first-class fortification among them all. Do you know how long it takes to build a first-class modern gun?' said this French Minister. The American replied that he did not. Lacour said, 'It takes a whole year. Your cities would be shelled and sacked and laid under tribute while you were creating a Navy; and how could you rebuild your fortifications with 1,000-pound shells falling about the ears of your working-men? Be sure—now mark this—Be sure that the defenceless condition of your country is thoroughly well known and commented upon by every power in Europe, that would gladly see you humbled, for, as I said, your prosperity is a dangerous menace to all the nations of the Old World except France.'"

The replies made to these statements were such ignorant declarations as that of Mr. HOLMAN, that we could depend upon "earthworks and sand banks thrown up on the spur of the occasion," upon agencies for conducting war, the outgrowth of the hour, and, finally, upon the "peaceful condition of the world," and the absolute security for peace we possess. In the same vein Mr. FOLLETT said: "As in the past generations, so in the present, the American people rely upon themselves and their own re-

sources and manhood to meet an emergency when it shall come. They see nothing to indicate a disturbance of the peace and repose of this nation. They see no indication that the food shall be taken from the mouth of labor to gratify the insatiate ambition of any man or body of men. They see no cause of apprehension that this nation, standing now first in the rank of nations, will do any such act of injustice as will involve them in strife. They know with their consent it will not be done. They know that a Government which stands as ours in the light of all the nations of the earth, controlled by the sentiment of justice and honor, with no plans of conquest and no motive for injustice, is not likely to be assailed, and when assailed millions of strong arms are ready for her defence."

It gives one the nightmare to think that the security of the country is in the hands of men who reason from such ignorance of the real history of even their own country. To their attention we commend some truthful remarks from our critic of ancient days, Dr. W. H. RUSSELL, now editor of the London *Army and Navy Gazette*. His article appears under our heading of State Troops. The truth is, our military history, in its relations to foreign contests, has been one of such phenomenal good fortune that we cannot dispossess ourselves of the idea that we are not subject to the ordinary rules of prudence. If our soldiers have triumphed in the field, it has not been due to the wisdom of our legislators in counsel, providing with wise forethought for the contingencies of war. Without forts, without fleets, with an army barely large enough for the necessary garrison duty, we are depending for the public defence upon a Militia system so antiquated and utterly foolish that one cannot consider it in any other light than that of a piece of national buffoonery. And yet Congressmen could talk to us about money spent in preparation for war as an absolute waste, and amuse themselves by gabbling about our absolute certainty of continuous peace, when as Mr. HORR well said in answer: "The history of the world so far proves that cupidity, avarice, rapacity have been just as glaring on the part of nations as they have been in the cases of individuals. Meanness is no unusual trait in the dealing among the powers of the world. Wars so far in this world have resulted from unreasonable causes. Nations often get into trouble when there is no sensible reason for it. Bad leaders, corrupt men in high places, ambitious princes, wicked and foolish prime ministers, often compel other nations to defend themselves or be disgraced in the eyes of the world. I would have this nation," Mr. HORR said further, "if possible, never insult any other nation on this or the other continent; but I would also have it so strong and well equipped that in the future we need never submit to an insult from any power on the face of the earth." In this he gave expression to a patriotic sentiment which we believe to be general and growing in intensity and fervor.

IGNORANCE OF TACTICS IN THE ARMY.

To the Editor of the *Army and Navy Journal*:

I MUST confess my surprise on reading H.'s letter with the above caption in your JOURNAL of Jan. 3, especially as coming from an officer who claims over eleven years' service. Whether by this he means eleven years as an officer, or includes therein his cadet service, I am unable to determine, as this self-appointed critic does not sign his name. Having served as an officer for a somewhat longer period, I take the liberty of dissenting entirely from the gentleman's opinion of the officers of the Army; such has not been my experience.

In the first place, I deny that the majority of our officers are deficient in their knowledge of tactics. I deny that our field officers are deficient in the knowledge of or lack interest in the study of our profession, and I take exception to that view of the nature of military science that elevates the mere memorizing of details of drill to such an important position in the study of our profession.

Tactics is that branch of military science that treats of the handling of troops, under fire, or in the presence of the enemy, and is divided into "grand tactics" and "minor tactics," the latter referring to the handling of such tactical units as regiments, battalions and batteries. H., in his communication, refers entirely to minor tactics.

All tactics are based upon certain fundamental principles, which are not arbitrary, but are functions of the character of the line of battle used and the organization of the tactical units employed. The number of evolutions that may be executed by any organization of course far exceeds the requirements of the Service, hence the military authorities

generally prescribe a certain limited number of evolutions, as those authorized for use by the troops. And for the purpose of uniformity, the exact manner in which these evolutions are to be executed is also laid down, together with the particular school of the soldier and company, deemed most suitable to the system of tactics adopted. Such a manual is termed in our Service "The tactics." To this has been added a description of certain prescribed ceremonies, which properly belong to regulations, and not to tactics, as they are in no way essential to the handling of troops in the presence of the enemy.

Tactics therefore comprises: First—Tactics proper, that is, the fundamental principles, the prescribed evolutions and the manner of executing them. Secondly—The details of drill, which may be divided into essential details, or such as determine the character and direction of movements, and arbitrary details, being such as are added for the sake of precision and style.

That officers of all grades should be well versed in the general principles, the prescribed evolutions, the manner of executing them and the various tactical relations and combinations is unquestionable. That they should have been thoroughly grounded and instructed in the entire system, including all arbitrary detail, is not denied; but that officers should spend their time in a continual memorizing of the mere arbitrary details of drill, which may be picked up in a week's time if once thoroughly learned, is simply a waste of time.

There is no means, save practice, by which an officer can keep these details in his mind; the best instructors make it a point of always studying over their tactics before going out to drill; this was General Upton's plan. I will guarantee, however, that there is hardly a line officer in the Service, who, if placed in command of a battalion in the field, would not, in a week's time, be well up in his drill, time and circumstances permitting practice.

During the past seventeen years I have served under such field officers as Generals Barry, Hunt, Roberts and Morgan; Colonels Hamilton, Lazelle, Closson, Jackson and Guenther, and I can emphatically state that all of them were competent to drill a battalion and do it well. I have seen many of the captains of my regiment drill a battalion creditably and accurately. It is true that mistakes were often made in arbitrary details, but the essentials were thoroughly understood and the mistakes were generally due to rustiness, not ignorance. Of course some officers are better instructors than others, some more familiar with their tactics than others, and some with such accurate memories that they never forget details. As a general thing I have found our officers well posted in the essential of tactics.

Artillery officers have to learn seven different drills, not including mechanical manoeuvres, and I think that the officers of my regiment could pass a very satisfactory examination in any of them.

The gentleman claims to be an enthusiast in his profession and well versed in tactics. What does he mean by tactics? Is he conversant with the modern system of open-order fighting? Does he understand the relative values of the German, French and English company-column systems? Does he understand the German system of firing drill; or does he mean that he is well up in the goose-step? In other words, is he a tactician or a drill master?

I deny, further, that our field officers lack interest in the study of their profession, or fail to encourage younger officers in similar study. I appeal to the list of organizers of the Military Service Institute, established for the very purpose of encouraging professional study. I appeal to the encouragement shown to publishers of military journals, and to the many able papers that have appeared showing study and research. And, as an example of what is being done at various posts, I would call attention to two stations not schools of instruction.

At one, where the commanding officer is fully competent to drill a battalion, the course of instruction for officers this winter consists of the reading and discussing such ordnance notes as are deemed important, and which apply to ordnance or artillery (the post being garrisoned by artillery troops); for this purpose the officers meet weekly. At another post there has also been prepared a course of instruction for officers. The commanding officer is well known as being particularly well posted in battalion drill. It is true that he does not spend his time poring over Upton, and is, in fact, old foggy enough to prefer the study of the campaigns of Napoleon to the more interesting study of fours right. It is also true that he does not come up to H.'s standard of a post commander; he does not superintend squad drill; he does not drill recruits in the right and left hand salute, in person; and I have never heard that he drilled his officers in draw-sabers; but he has just published an order requiring his officers to prepare papers upon the following subjects:

1. Clothing, camp and garrison equipage, as issued and suited to enlisted men.
2. Electrical appliances for military use, and the military use of electricity.
3. Camp furniture and field equipment for officers use.
4. Iron—its history in connection with artillery and ordnance.

Now, of course, while this may not be as important to the profession, in the mind of H., as a closer study of Upton, I respectfully submit that it does not indicate any special lack of interest in the profession of arms.

In conclusion, I would suggest that H. might be better employed in a study of some branch of his profession, slightly more important than drill, and would advise that he defer further criticism of his brother officers until he has reached years of discretion.

G. N. WHISTLER, 1st Lieut., 5th Art.

(Correspondence of the Army and Navy Journal.)

DAVID'S ISLAND, N. Y. H.

THE String Orchestra of the Depot Band, under the leadership of Bandmaster Fred ter Linden, gave an excellent concert in the library on the evening of Jan. 9, rendering selections from Schubert, Weber, Wagner, Strauss, etc., and some of Mr. Linden's own compositions. These concerts are to be a feature of the winter enjoyments of the David's Island garrison, and much praise is due to Mr. Linden for his efforts to educate the Depot Band to render a high class of music.

THE GARDNER MACHINE GUN.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal:

The Gardner Machine Gun which introduces the latest and most approved system of machine warfare, and in which the European governments are greatly interested, has never been exhibited in this country where it was invented and where the Gardner Gun Company is located. The recent turbulent movements in the restless governments of the Old World increased the zeal of the inventors of arms and the eagerness of the transatlantic governments to secure the most perfect machines for field and naval operations. The important aim they had in view was to secure the arm as nearly perfect as possible in the following essentials :

Simplicity of mechanism.

Strength and endurance.

Rapidity and certainty of action.

Facility of replacing disabled parts.

General hardiness in action.

The aim of this article is to give a description of the Gardner Gun and to compare it with other machine systems and to show the result of an exhaustive competitive trial and experiments made by the leading military men of England, by the order of the House of Commons.

The above cut of the one barrel Gardner Gun shows the arm mounted for field action. It is so light that it is easily carried by one man. In bulk it is but little larger than a musket, but being composed entirely of metal and being very strong, it weighs from thirty to fifty pounds. A rectangular metal case fourteen inches in length, five and one-half inches in depth, and two and one-half inches in width, contains all the mechanism needed to operate the arm. Firmly attached to one end of the case is the barrel, and at the right side of the case, near the rear end, is the hand crank.

This case, with its simple mechanism inclosed, the barrel and the hand crank constitute the entire arm proper. The top of the case is hinged and may be instantly unlocked and thrown forward, affording immediate access to the interior.

There are but four principal parts to the mechanism in the case, the main crank with the hand crank attached, the lock, the cartridge carrier, and the controller bar. By means of a cam shaft worked by the hand crank, the locks are driven forward, and drawn backward, the first motion forcing the cartridge into the muzzle of the barrel and the latter withdrawing the shell after firing. The cartridge which is contained in a suitable frame called the feeder, attached to the forward part of the breech-chamber, passes through openings in the top of the latter. Each cartridge as it falls is brought into the axis of the barrel and the lock plunger. The advance of the lock forces it into position and it is discharged by the cam, which works the firing pin.

The feeders are kept supplied by supplementary holders. Two ordinary soldiers without instruction can readily feed and fire this one barrel gun, from one hundred and fifty to two hundred shots per minute. The crank rotary motion which operates the mechanism of the machine-gun, as has been demonstrated by the most careful tests, is superior to the lever motion, as used in the Nordenfelt and other guns. No power is lost in the use of the crank rotary motion, but in the use of the lever motion, the inertia has to be overcome, and all the momentum and power applied is lost at the end of each back or forward motion of the lever, and in the use of guns operated by a lever a frequent change of the men firing the gun is necessary. The crank rotary is as easily operated at all elevations or depressions of the gun as when the gun is horizontal, but the lever motion is very difficult and awkward to operate when the barrel is elevated or depressed. When one man is both sighting and firing the gun, the crank motion, being even and continuous, will not disturb his aim, as will the jerky motion of the lever.

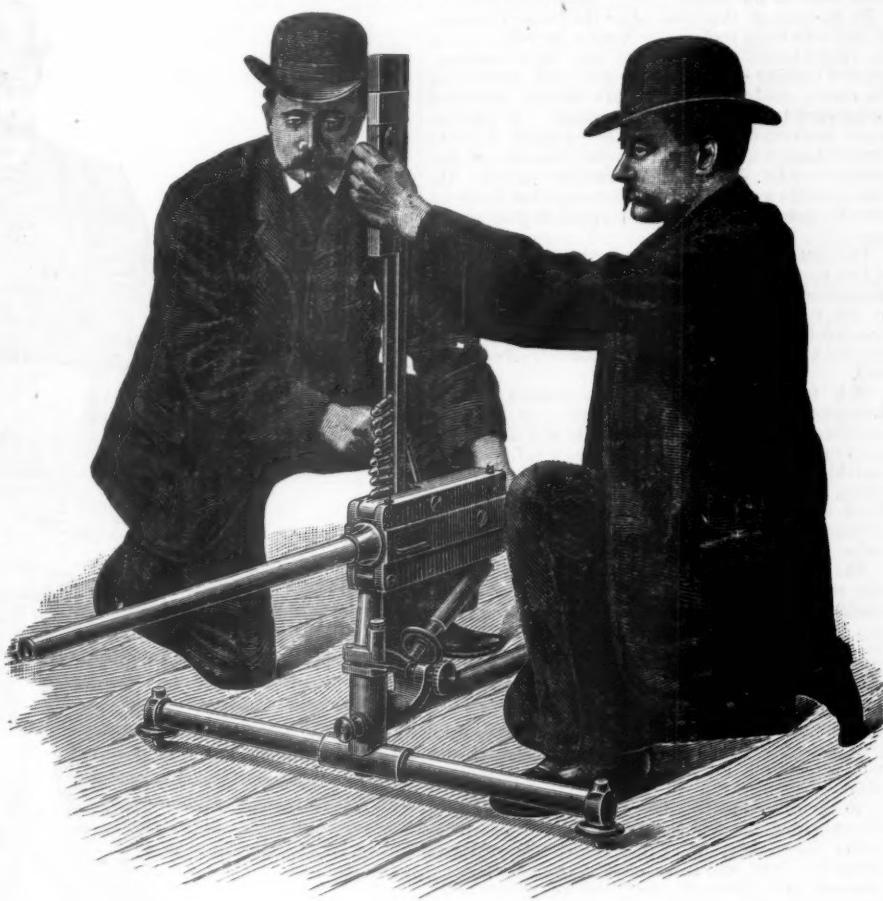
A portable rest is manufactured by the Gardner Gun Company, upon which the arm is mounted (see cut). It consists of two wrought iron tubes, placed at right angles to each other. The front bar can be easily unlocked and placed in line with the trail bar; from the trail bar project two arms, each provided with a screw, that serves for the lateral adjustment of the gun. These screws are so arranged as to allow for an oscillating motion of the gun through an arc of 15 deg. This gun is also mounted on same mounting as in cut No. 2, on which the "2" bbl. gun is shown, for use on ship board, or in angles and caponieres of fortifications.

Figure two represents the two-barrel Gardner gun, mounted upon the portable tripod. The low T mounting, for field service, may be also used as with the one-barrel gun.

The mechanism of this gun is of the same system and identical with that of the one-barrel gun. At the competitive trials of MACHINE GUNS, ordered by the Secretary of State for War of England at Shoeburyness, this two-barrel gun was declared over all competitors the BEST MACHINE GUN for general purposes of BOTH SERVICES for the ARMY and NAVY.

The five-barrel Gardner Gun is shown in Fig. 3, mounted upon a tripod. These guns have parallel barrels, their axes lying in a horizontal plane. The

CUT NO. 1—THE ONE BARREL GARDNER.



CUT NO. 2.—THE TWO BARREL GARDNER. MOUNTED ON TRIPOD.



breech ends of the barrels are fitted into the centre cross piece of the frame.

To the rear of this cross piece the frame increases in depth to form the breech casing in which, as in the single-barrel gun, is placed the entire mechanism for loading and firing the gun and extracting the empty shells. The locks are drawn backward or forward by the cam crank or shaft. At the forward motion, the cartridges are pushed into the barrel chambers and held during the time of discharge, whilst during the backward motion the empty shells are withdrawn and expelled from the breech casing, through the perforated plate at the base.

The extractor, pivoted to the lock plunger, is free to rise over the cartridge head, but during the extraction it is held firmly down over the head of the cartridge by a valve, which is moved by the cam for this purpose. This is accomplished without the use of springs and makes the *extraction positive*.

This feature, as shown in the contest at Shoeburyness, is a point of superiority over all other machine guns. A "safety bar" is added for drill purposes. When the handle is in a safe position, cartridges may be worked through the gun without firing. The gun is fed from a grooved reservoir, fixed above the top plate, through openings in which the cartridges fall through the cartridge valve.

The cartridge valve, which is placed between the top plate of the casing and the cartridge rest, is made with openings corresponding with those in the top plates. It has a transverse motion for the purpose of separating the cartridges and forcing them in position, in line with the chambers and with the lock plungers. All guns are sighted up to the two thousand yards.

This gun is intended strictly for a *colley* firing gun, delivering the five shots at one discharge without perceptible intervals. In moving the crank slowly, however, they discharge in quick rotation.

In the experiments with machine guns under the directions of the English Select Committee of Machine Gun Trials, appointed by the Secretary of State for War, which occurred in Shoeburyness in January and February, 1881, the superiority of the Gardner guns over all others was demonstrated. The guns under trial were: 1. The Gatling six-barrel side action; 2. The Gatling ten-barrel direct action; 3. The Gatling ten-barrel side action; 4. The Nordenfelt ten-barrel; 5. The Nordenfelt five-barrel; 6. The Pratt-Whitney (Coleman-Gardner) four-barrel; 7. The Gardner five-barrel; 8. The Gardner two-barrel. The report of the committee, as presented to the House of Commons by Henry Boys, Vice Admiral, President, and printed by order of the House, gives the result of these trials. After pointing out various disadvantages in connection with the Gatling and Nordenfelt systems, the committee reported as follows in favor of—

THE GARDNER SYSTEM.

"The Gardner five-barrel gun fired 16,754 rounds during the trial, a number largely in excess of those fired by any of the other guns, as it was subsequently submitted to a special endurance trial of 1,500 rounds per barrel. The total number of jams was 24, being a percentage of .14. Several of these jams occurred at the commencement of the trial, and before the gun, which was a perfectly new one, had been properly adjusted. In the last 7,500 rounds fired on one afternoon for endurance, there were but five jams, viz.: four failures to extract and one cartridge nipped in the action—two of these jams being caused by using cartridges that had previously been dropped in the mud by accident. Leaving these out of the count, the percentage of jams on this occasion was only .04 per cent., or in the proportion of four failures in ten thousand rounds. The accuracy of fire was fair. The absolute rapidity of fire (of the five-barrel) was only inferior to that of the ten-barrel Nordenfelt, at one stage of the trial, viz.: after the exposure test, this gun having succeeded in firing 405 rounds in 30 seconds."

"The Two-Barrel Gardner Gun."—The Two-Barrel Gardner Gun fired 6,929 rounds during the trial without a single jam; the last three thousand rounds being fired in eleven minutes thirty-nine seconds, without cleaning or lubrication, and the gun appeared to work as well at the end of the trial as it did in the beginning.

"The Gardner system appears to the Committee to possess the following advantages:

"1. Simplicity of mechanism.

"2. Facility of removing and accessibility of parts.

"3. Strength and endurance.

"4. Rapidity and certainty of action.

"5. The supply of ammunition is regular.

"6. The principle of the extraction is very good.

"The Committee are unable to see any disadvantages inherent in the system. The Pratt-Whitney model being mainly a complication of the Gardner system, the above advantages will only partially apply."

Abstract of Performances.—The following is an abstract of performances, showing each particular quality which distinguished one or other of the guns above the remainder:

CUT NO. 3—THE FIVE BARREL GARDNER, MOUNTED ON TRIPOD.



	Absolute 10-barrel Nordenfelt Per weight of gun, 2-barrel
1. Power or rapidity of fire	2-barrel Gardner.
2. Certainty in feeding and loading	5 " Gardner.
3. Ease and regularity of firing continually	5 " Gardner.
4. Convenience and facility of laying	10-barrel Nordenfelt, when not firing at high angles.
5. General hardness in action	2-barrel Gardner.
6. Simplicity of mechanism	2-barrel Gardner.
7. Strength and endurance of lock action	5 " Gardner.
8. Facility of replacing disabled component	2-barrel Gardner.
9. Mobility as to weight and form	The Gardner System.
10. Freedom from liability to jams	2-barrel Gardner.

The Committee further says: "The two specimens of *Volley Gun* of the 5-barrel class which have been under trial are the Nordenfelt and Gardner.

Referring to the abstract showing the comparative merits, it will be seen that whether regards reliability for continuous work, or ease and rapidity of fire, the Gardner Gun has manifested a marked superiority over the Nordenfelt."

"Recommendation."—In looking at the performances of the guns it will be seen that as regards 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10, the Gardner system is the best and the 2-barrel Gardner the most perfect form of that system. The Committee, therefore, are of the opinion that the two barrel Gardner gun is the most suitable gun for the general purposes of both Services, and recommend its introduction. For special purposes where a more powerful gun is desired, they recommend the adoption of the 5-barrel Gardner gun."

The Gardner Gun Company has established extensive works in London and is manufacturing a large number of guns for the English Government, and for the Powers on the Continent.

Some of the 5 barrel guns were used by the English at the battle of El Teb, in the Soudan, where they rendered effective service. They (both 2 bbl. and "5 bbl.") are being used also by General Wolseley in his relief expedition to General Gordon.

The attention of this Government has been called to these guns and the local company has been requested to send the guns to Sandy Hook, by the War Department, and to Annapolis, by the Navy Department, for trial and inspection.

The Gardner Gun Company is strictly an Ameri-

can organization, the gun having been invented and the company formed in Cleveland, Ohio, where the general office of the company is located.

This "1" barrel gun, by its portability, is especially adapted for infantry service, as also is the two-barrel, which can be handled by three or four men. It is also a formidable and available weapon for protection of cities against riots and mob violence.

For further particulars and descriptive pamphlets, address

THE GARDNER GUN CO.,
Cleveland, Ohio.

Or 49 Curtain Road, London, E. C., England.

In connection with this interesting description of the Gardner Machine Gun, we give the following from the London *Echo* of December 5th, 1884:

"There was some sharp fighting at Souakim on Wednesday night. The rebels, as they are called, attacked the town, but were repulsed with heavy loss. That is hardly surprising when we read that "the Gardner and musketry fire directed on the enemy was of terrific volume." In twenty minutes the Arab skirmishers were "nearly quieted," after which "the contest became something like rabbiting. In the bright moonlight the rebels were seen darting out of their hiding places. As they ran they received showers of balls, and many fell. . . . This lasted for three hours, until the ground was covered with pools of blood." What glorious sport! The game, naked Arabs; the sportsmen, British soldiers, armed with Martini-Henrys and protected by the "Gardner." And the cause, too! With what pride the soldier must have potted his man—the impudent rascal who presumed to think that even in the Soudan men do well to battle for liberty! It was said at one time that our soldiers were sent to the Soudan to free the unhappy people from an odious tyranny. Ministers would probably say the same thing now.

How these gallant Arabs—"savages" is the favorite term—must despise us!"

PERSONAL ITEMS.

COMMANDER H. B. SEELY, U. S. Navy, is at Delhi, New York.

COLONEL SAMUEL WOODS, U. S. A., retired, is wintering at Oakland, Cal.

CAPTAIN S. C. KELLOGG, 5th U. S. Cavalry, was a recent guest at the Grand Hotel, New York.

LIEUTENANT H. D. REED, 25th U. S. Infantry, was a recent guest at the Merchants' Hotel, St. Paul.

CAPTAIN E. O. MATTHEWS, U. S. N., has been elected a member of the Newport (R. I.) Natural History Society.

CAPTAIN FRANK E. NYE, U. S. A., of Fort Monroe, Va., is on a short visit to Augusta, Me., on private business.

LIEUT.-COLONEL CALEB R. LAYTON, U. S. A., registered at the West End Hotel, Philadelphia, early this week.

LIEUTENANTS C. P. TOWNSLEY and H. E. Waterman, U. S. A., were recent guests at the Grand Hotel, New York.

LIEUTENANT S. M. FOOTE, 4th U. S. Artillery, rejoined at Fort Adams, R. I., Wednesday, from a short leave.

POST CHAPLAIN ROBERT MCWATTY, U. S. A., celebrated his fifty-sixth birthday on Sunday last, January 11.

CAPTAIN S. A. DAY, U. S. A., left Fort Hamilton, N. Y. H., this week for a few months, for the benefit of his health.

GENERAL H. A. MORROW, U. S. A., while in Omaha on the Stephenson Court-martial is the guest of Gen. G. B. Dandy, U. S. A.

COLONEL E. V. SUMNER, U. S. A., of Fort Niobrara, is in Omaha the guest of Colonel Mason, of General Howard's staff.

COMMANDER C. M. SCHOONMAKER, U. S. N., of the Norfolk Navy-yard, who has been lately on the sick list, has returned to duty.

LIEUTENANT E. S. JACOB, U. S. N., retired, January 7, has gone with his family to Franktown, Va., where he intends to settle.

GENERAL O. O. HOWARD, U. S. A., lectured at Blair, Neb., this week on "Gettysburg," for the benefit of a Grand Army Post.

ADJUTANT C. M. BAILY, 8th U. S. Infantry, was an official visitor at Fort Leavenworth, Kas., this week from the Pacific Coast.

LIEUTENANT J. E. EASTON, 2d U. S. Artillery, on leave from Washington Barracks, D. C., is spending a portion of it at Melrose, Fla.

REAR ADMIRAL C. H. WELLS, U. S. N., registered at the Astor House, New York, early in the week, and at the Parker House, Boston, Jan. 14.

LIEUTENANT S. E. ALLEN, U. S. A., rejoined at Governor's Island this week from a month's leave, spent mainly with friends at Hillsborough, Ills.

CAPTAIN J. F. MOUNT, 3d U. S. Artillery, was to leave St. Augustine, Fla., the latter part of this week to join his new battery at Jackson Barracks, La.

THE Baltimore authorities are already making arrangements for the meeting of the Society of the Army of the Potomac, to be held in that city May 6 and 7 next.

LIEUTENANT J. D. MANN, 7th U. S. Cavalry, and bride arrived at Fort Leavenworth, Kas., this week, and received a hearty reception by the officers and ladies there.

ASSISTANT SURGEON VALEBY HAVARD, U. S. A., is preparing to leave Fort Schuyler, N. Y. H., on a four months' leave of absence, a portion of which he will spend abroad.

ENSIGN W. V. BRONAUGH, U. S. N., was married at Hopkinsville, Ky., Jan. 8, to Miss Mary Edmunds. Many friends of bride and groom were present at the interesting occasion.

COLONEL H. M. LAZELLE, and Captains W. N. Tisdall, P. D. Vroom, and H. W. Lawton, U. S. A., were at Whipple Barracks, A. T., this week looking at cavalry horses for the Division of the Pacific.

COLONEL JOHN HAMILTON, 5th U. S. Artillery, and the officers of his regiment stationed in New York Harbor, are to be the guests of the 12th Regiment, N. G. S. N. Y., at Madison Square Garden on Monday evening, February 16.

GENERAL W. D. WHIPPLE, U. S. A., of George Washington Post 103, G. A. R., New York City, announces to the members that the post has resolved to attend the dedication ceremonies at the Washington Monument in Washington, D. C., February 21, next.

THE Omaha Herald, advertizing to the fact that Colonel John E. Summers, Medical Department, U. S. A., will be retired from active service Jan. 24, 1886, says: "So much the worse for the Army. There is no better timber for surgeon-general in the Service."

GENERAL J. C. TIDBALL, U. S. A., who will be promoted Colonel of the 1st U. S. Artillery in March next, will likely remain in command of the Artillery School, Fort Monroe, which will devolve the command of the regiment upon Lieutenant-Colonel Piper, who is General Tidball's immediate junior on the lineal list.

A PORTSMOUTH (N. H.) dispatch to the New York Sun says: I learn that Hon. Frank Jones of this city has received from Mr. Cleveland the offer of the post of Secretary of the Navy, and that he has the proposal under consideration. I presume he will accept it. Mr. Jones is a wealthy brewer. He has been repeatedly elected to Congress as a Democrat. He is a competent business man, and in every way a respectable citizen. He has always been a Democrat, and was a liberal contributor to the campaign fund in the recent election.

CAPTAIN E. G. MATHEY, 7th U. S. Cavalry, was a recent guest at the Paxton, Omaha.

COLONEL W. R. PARNELL, U. S. A., of Fort Maginnis, M. T., is coming East on a few weeks' leave.

LIEUTENANT GEORGE BELL, 3d Infantry, has come East on a brief visit from Fort Missoula, Montana.

GENERAL H. W. WESSELLS, U. S. A., visited New York this week, quartering at the Sturtevant House.

COLONEL JAMES VAN VOAST, U. S. A., and family, have moved from Newport, Ky., to 3d Street, Cincinnati.

GENERAL H. G. THOMAS, U. S. A., who is spending the winter abroad, will not return home until late next summer.

LIEUTENANT-COMMANDER E. S. HOUSTON, U. S. N., abroad on leave, is spending a portion of the winter at Florence, Italy.

ASSISTANT SURGEON A. C. GIRARD, U. S. A., left New York the latter part of this week for his new station, Fort Porter.

SURGEON W. S. TREMAYNE, U. S. A., of Fort Porter, who has been sailing for some time past, projects an extended sick leave.

COLONEL L. L. LANGDON, U. S. A., rejoined at Fort McHenry, Md., early in the week from leave, and resumed command of the post.

GEN. S. K. SCHWENK, U. S. A., retired, was at the Lafayette Hotel, and CHIEF ENGINEER JOHN JOHNSTON, U. S. N., at the Grand Hotel, Philadelphia, on Thursday.

COMMANDOR S. R. FRANKLIN and COMMANDER GEORGE DEWEY, U. S. N., were at Norfolk, Va., this week, on duty connected with the fitting out of the Pensacola.

MRS. HANCOCK, wife of Major-General W. S. Hancock, U. S. A., left Governor's Island for Thomasville, Ga., Tuesday of this week, for the benefit of her health.

ANDREW JACKSON's memory was honored on the anniversary of the battle of New Orleans by celebrations in many parts of the country on Thursday, January 8.

MISS MINNIE MOORE, says the Vancouver Independent, the charming daughter of Colonel John Moore, Medical Department, U. S. A., is engaged to Capt. W. A. Thompson, 4th U. S. Cavalry.

A MORMON editor of Salt Lake City had the following in a recent number: "The unknown woman who was killed at this place about three months ago by the cars proves to be one of the wives of the editor of this paper."

P. A. ENGINEER WM. H. NAUMAN, U. S. N., was married at the Unitarian Church, Portland, Me., January 7, to Miss May Peters, daughter of Mr. George C. Peters, of this City. Numerous friends of bride and groom were present at the happy occasion.

LIEUTENANT—"There is nothing like presence of mind. One day in battle a soldier near me had four of his teeth knocked in by a rifle ball which would have surely passed through his spinal column and killed him had he not, with rare presence of mind, quickly swallowed the ball."—*Flying Blatt*.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Vidette*, published at Fort Gibson, I. T., asks that paper why it is that the young ladies of the Indian Territory refuse to become acquainted with or recognize a soldier, to which the *Vidette* replies: "In every place isolated cases may be found of young ladies [so called] who would refuse an introduction to a soldier, but they can be but rare."

A CORRESPONDENT of the *El Paso Times*, referring to questions raised as to the ownership of a certain mine at Eagle Spring, says: The mine in question is owned by Major S. L. Woodward, Captain Viele, Colonel Carpenter and Lieutenant Whitall, U. S. A., and M. McKenzie and three U. S. soldiers and one Signal officer; and these are the only owners and parties having full possession of the property."

The last suggestion for a Cabinet comes from *The Troy Press*. The *Press*'s nominations are as follows:

State: Horatio Seymour.

Treasury: Samuel J. Tilden.

War: George B. McClellan.

Navy: Gratz Brown.

Law: George H. Pendleton.

Interior: Winfield Scott Hancock.

Post Office: William H. English.

SURGEON G. M. STERNBERG, U. S. A., while in New York last week paid a visit, with other gentlemen, to the Baltic Stores, Brooklyn, to inspect a new apparatus for disinfecting rags and other cargoes of vessels. There were two plans shown, one by the use of sulphuric acid, and the other by the introduction of a jet of steam. Major Sternberg, who had with him a dozen bottles of cholera germs, tried the effect of both systems upon them, and afterwards rebototted them for microscopic examination. He will make a report to the Secretary of the Treasury.

THE San Francisco Report, of Jan. 3, says:

Capt. W. N. Tisdall, 1st Inf.; P. D. Vroom, 3d Cav., and H. W. Lawton, 4th Cav., have left for Arizona.... Col. Lazelle has gone to Whipple Barracks.... Comdr. Frederick Rogers, of the *Independence*, was here Tuesday.... Capt. C. F. Williams, U. S. M. C., was down from Mare Island last week.... Lieut. J. C. Burnett visited the city Tuesday.... The officers' and ladies' reception at Angel Island Saturday was a delightful affair. Now that Mrs. Kautz, the charming hostess of two years since, has returned from abroad, a revival of the old-time gayety may be looked for.... Mrs. Reed, wife of Capt. W. I. Reed, 4th U. S. Infantry, is visiting her niece, Mrs. O. P. Evans.

The children of the officers at the Presidio enjoyed themselves Tuesday. They held a german given in honor of Misses Edith Burt, Sallie Brooke and Marie Cozzens, who are enjoying their school vacation. Master Joseph Haskin and Miss May Andrews led the cotillion. A number of handsome favors were distributed. Invitations were issued to Miss Cozzens, Miss Brooke, Miss Burt, Miss Andrews, Miss Randol, Miss McCrea, Miss Elliott, Miss Smedberg, Miss Frank, Miss Dunn, Miss Mexia, and Masters Joseph and Will Haskin, W. Bingham, Lazelle, Brooke, Beaver, Wilson and others.

ENSIGN H. G. DRESEL, U. S. N., is visiting at Newtonville, Mass.

MAJOR D. H. KINZIE, U. S. A., of Fort Schuyler, visited New York on Tuesday.

LIEUT. G. F. W. HOLMAN, U. S. N., left Norfolk, Va., this week on a fortnight's leave.

MAJOR WILLIAM ARTHUR, U. S. A., was a guest at Barnum's Hotel, Baltimore, this week.

SURGEON EDWIN BENTLEY, U. S. A., on leave from Texas, is visiting old friends at Little Rock, Ark.

COL. J. E. TOURTELLOTTE, U. S. A., was in New York this week with quarters at the Grand Hotel.

COLONEL ALEXANDER MONTGOMERY, U. S. A., is wintering at the Rockwell House, Glen Falls, N. Y.

REAR ADMIRAL BALDWIN, U. S. N., and Mrs. Baldwin, have sailed for Europe, but will return in May.

ASSISTANT SURGEON F. W. ELBREY, whose health is not good, is spending the winter at Alexandria, Virginia.

LIEUTENANT G. P. COTTON, 1st Artillery, will rejoin at Fort Canby, W. T., in a few days from a four weeks' leave.

ASSISTANT SURGEON J. V. LAUDERDALE, U. S. A., on leave from Fort Sully, D. T., is visiting friends in Brooklyn, N. Y.

ASSISTANT SURGEON W. C. SHANNON, U. S. A., has moved to Omaha, Neb., for duty at Gen. Howard's Headquarters in that city.

ASSISTANT SURGEON W. J. WILSON, U. S. A., has returned from abroad, and is spending the remainder of his leave at St. Joseph, Mo.

LIEUTENANT W. A. GLASSFORD, Signal Officer, U. S. A., visited old friends at Fort Leavenworth a few days ago on his way to the Southwest to inspect Signal stations.

MRS. KING, the wife of Captain King, will reside for the winter at the residence of her brother, Dr. J. C. Achison, 220 East 17th street (near Stuyvesant square), New York City.

COLONEL PEARSON, 21st Infantry, Fort Sidney, and Captain Bowman, 9th Infantry, Fort Russell, were in Omaha last week, on a general court-martial, registering at the Paxton Hotel.

CAPTAIN FOOTE, 9th Infantry, Fort Russell, is visiting his relatives in Omaha, Judge Wakely's family. He was formerly stationed in that city, and is very popular among his old friends.

LIEUTENANT GRANGER ADAMS, U. S. A., during the absence of Lieutenant S. A. Day on sick leave, will take a tour of duty with Randolph's light battery of the 5th Artillery at Fort Hamilton.

LIEUTENANT-GENERAL SHERIDAN was re-elected President, and Major George Shorkley and Lieut. S. E. Allen, U. S. A., re-elected Directors of the National Rifle Association of America this week.

MRS. BOOTH, wife of Captain C. A. Booth, U. S. A., gave a dancing party at Columbus Barracks, O., a few evenings ago, which is described as being one of the most enjoyable affairs of the season at that post.

MAJOR GEN. IRVIN McDOWELL, U. S. A., has resigned as one of the Park Commissioners of San Francisco, on the ground that he is not a citizen of California, but had always maintained his citizenship in New York.

LIEUT. COL. E. F. TOWNSEND, 11th U. S. Infantry, who has been spending a leave in the East since his relief last October from General Recruiting service, was at the Merchants' Hotel, St. Paul, this week on his way to join his regiment.

CAPTAIN P. H. ELLIS and LIEUT. L. A. CRAIG, U. S. A., were at the Clothing Depot in St. Louis, Mo., examining as to certain obsolete uniform clothing received from Texas in packages improperly sealed, and not corresponding in amounts with the invoices.

MAJOR CHARLES W. RAYMOND, Corps of Engineers, U. S. A., read an interesting paper a few evenings ago, on the characteristics of Boston Harbor, before a meeting of the Society of Art, at the Institute of Technology in that city. At its conclusion a vote of thanks was tendered Major Raymond.

WHEN MRS. GAINES appeared in court her husband, the gallant general, always sat by her side in full uniform, with sword and belt. If any wrangle occurred in the progress of a suit, he never failed to remind counsel that he accepted the full responsibility for all the lady or her lawyers might say or do.

GENERAL VON CAPRIN, the German Minister of Marine, announces that the dispatch of a squadron to West Africa had been decided upon, he said, in order to give the natives who were in doubt visible proof of the power of Germany, and also to protect German consular agents from insult. It would be necessary to retain men of war, especially flat-bottomed boats, in which the Navy was somewhat deficient, at Cameroons for some time to come. It was also urgent that vessels be completed of the most modern type. It was proposed, however, to adopt a system of large ironclads.

COMMODORE RALPH CHANDLER's naval career was sketched in the Brooklyn *Eagle* recently, and that paper now adds the following: "When the *Swatara* was launched from the Brooklyn Navy-yard the Commodore's daughter christened her, and he had command of the vessel in the transit of Venus expedition. One of the most charitable acts of his life was relieving Mme. Albertina, the actress, in Australia, and bringing her to her friends in this country. This woman first acted with Frank Chanfrau at the beginning of her career, and sought and found an engagement in Melbourne. When Commodore Chandler went there he learned that Albertina was blind and confined to a charitable institution a few miles outside of Melbourne. He had released from this institution, and brought home to America on board the *Swatara*. She is now supposed to be in Boston. For this act the Commodore was made an honorary member of the Actors' Association."

Mrs. Ross, widow of Lieutenant G. V. Ross, is spending the winter in the City at No. 216 West 46th street.

CAPT. RICHARD VANCE, 19th Infantry, has left Fort Clark, Texas, on leave, for the benefit of his health.

CAPT. E. S. EWING, 16th U. S. Infantry, on leave from Fort Concho, Tex., is visiting at Pass Christian, Miss.

LIEUT. COLON AUGUR, U. S. A., visited New York this week on his return from Washington to Fort Leavenworth.

ENSIGN W. R. M. FIELD, U. S. N., left Baltimore, Md., on Wednesday to join the Marion at Portsmouth, N. H.

LIEUTENANT J. H. MOORE, U. S. N., lately of Washington, joined the Marion at Portsmouth, New Hampshire, this week.

CAPTAIN G. F. PRICE, 5th U. S. Cavalry, lately on recruiting duty in New York City, has taken command of his Troop at Fort McKinney, Wyoming.

GENERAL GEORGE W. CULLUM, U. S. A., was elected Vice President of the American Geographical Society, at the annual meeting, held January 13, and Rear Admiral Chas. H. Baldwin, U. S. N., one of the councillors.

GENERAL O. O. HOWARD, U. S. A., when in France last summer was sent the Legion of Honor. He declined immediate official acceptance, but brought the decoration with him, and sent them to the War Department for the action of Congress. As, however, Congress can only receive notice in such matters through the State Department, the Legion and the brevet have gone back to France to be "forwarded through the prescribed channels."

LIEUT. COL. AND MRS. HEBB gave a farewell party for their little ones, Misses Lillie and Gertie and Master Hopey, to their young friends at the Charles-ton Navy-yard last Friday evening, which was unanimously pronounced "a lovely affair." Lieut. Colonel Hebb has lately received orders to exchange with Lieut. Colonel Broome, now at Kittery Navy-yard, Maine. He leaves many friends who sincerely regret the departure of himself and family from the Navy-yard and its vicinity.

The New Orleans *Times-Democrat* says: "We are soon to lose another popular young lady. The marriage of Miss Rosa Ranlett and Lieutenant J. H. Sears, U. S. N., will take place February 4th. A quiet wedding at the house and a reception before the bride and groom leave, the same evening, for their home in Washington. Lieutenant Sears is one of the most promising young officers in the Navy, a gentleman of good family, and excellent personal qualities. The bride, who has passed her short life in New Orleans, will be followed by loving regret at her departure."

GEORGE AUGUSTUS SALA in his Boston lecture the other night, told of his experiences at the coronation of Alexander III. It was necessary to wear a uniform to gain admission. He accordingly wore a plain one that did not gain him any particular attention, but his secretary held some civilian appointment at London, the chief perquisite of which was the right to wear a uniform, "in comparison with which Solomon in all his glory was the smallest of potatoes." To his paper he sent despatch of seven and a half columns. How to get it in ahead of other correspondents was a quandary. But intrusting it to his secretary, what was the latter's surprise, as he neared the door in his flaming raiment, to see the entire guard present arms while he marched through. His despatch was sent two hours before any other correspondent got away from the ceremony.

GENERAL BUTLER sues the Boston *Herald* for \$25,000 damages for libel contained in a letter purporting to have been written by one of the crew of the transport *Mt. Vernon*. General Butler's counsel says that in the spring of 1862 Gen. Butler started for New Orleans with the transport Mississippi, having on board 500 troops. When the vessel reached Hatteras a heavy gale was blowing. The writer of the alleged libellous article says that the captain refused to make the port on account of the danger and kept his course down the coast. He asserted that General Butler became so angry that he placed the captain in irons for not going ashore, and assumed command of the vessel himself, endangering the lives of all on board. General Butler was charged with ignorance of the coast, and inability to command the boat, as a result of which she struck on Frypan Shoals, all of which General Butler pronounces false. The article also charges that General Butler had several barrels of liquor on board and that the sailors got at them and were made drunk, the General looking on and making no protest. This is also contradicted.

GENERAL G. B. DANDY, U. S. A., gave a handsome "stag-party" January 2, at his new and elegant residence on Park Avenue, Omaha, Nebraska, in honor of his guest, General H. A. Morrow, 21st Infantry, commanding at Fort Sidney, and the President of the General Court Martial convened in Omaha for the trial of Assistant Surgeon Stephenson, U. S. A. General Dandy and General Morrow having been warm friends during their former service in the Department of the Columbia. Covers were laid for about twenty guests, the supper being the most elegant given in Omaha for several years, lasting until the "wee ams' hours." Witty responses to their respective toasts were made by the host and guests of the evening, and the affair was a very enjoyable one. Among the guests present were Colonel Sumner, Fort Niobrara; Colonel Pearson, Fort Sidney; Captains Lee and Foote, Fort Russell, and General Hawkins, Colonel Taylor, Dr. Summers, Captain Sladen, A. D. C., Colonel Stanton, Captain McCauley, Colonel Mason, Lieutenant Kingman and a number of prominent citizens of Omaha.

HENRY H. GORRINOZ, late Commander, U. S. N., is at present lying seriously ill and in a critical condition in his rooms at The Benedict, in Washington Square, New York, suffering from concussion of the spine, brought on by falling from a car some time ago, and also from an attack of nervous prostration and insomnia.

WASHINGTON ITEMS.

Lieutenant R. K. Evans, 12th U. S. Infantry, and Mrs. Evans, of Sackett's Harbor, are visiting at 1738 DeSales street, the residence of Mrs. Evans' mother, Mrs. Hornsby.

Mrs. Elderkin, and Miss Annie Elderkin, of New-port Barracks, Ky., are on a brief visit here.

Mrs. Mitchell, widow of the late General William G. Mitchell, has occupied her new residence, 1322 Thirty-first street.

General Sherman, whenever he appeared at a party while here, was constantly surrounded by ladies, and "Oh, General, won't you come back to Washington to live?" was frequently heard in most pleasant tones.—*Sunday Herald*.

Mr. J. B. Baker, of the A. G. O. for many years, died January 11.

Good news comes from Lieut. H. J. Hunt, U. S. N., in Colorado as to his improved health.

Mrs. Lackey, widow of Chief Engineer Lackey, U. S. N., an amateur artist of ability, has sent some beautifully painted tiles to the New Orleans Exposition.

The Church of the Ascension presented a brilliant appearance on Wednesday evening, January 14, the occasion being the marriage of Lieutenant Medorem Crawford, Jr., 2d U. S. Artillery, of Washington Barracks, to Miss Lola Goodall. The groomsmen were Lieutenant J. A. Turner, U. S. M. C.; Lieutenant J. A. Buchanan, U. S. A.; Lieutenant S. C. Lemly, U. S. N., and Ensign T. S. Rodgers, U. S. N., cousin of the bride, best man.

The following mileage claims were passed upon by the Second Comptroller of the Treasury during the past two weeks: Comdr. C. W. Pickering, \$22.86; Chief Engr. Thos. Williams, \$285.30; Capt. Clerk J. G. Wilson, \$126.25; Surg. Geo. W. Woods, \$237.67; Lieut.-Comdr. Chas. W. Tracy, \$156.65; Capt. W. A. Kirkland, \$1,031.37; Comdr. Frederick Rodgers, \$102.75; Lieut. John C. Irvine, \$646.15; Comdr. James D. Graham, \$491.25; Paymaster R. B. Rodney, \$109.63; Lieut.-Comdr. F. A. Smith, \$316.75; Comdr. W. H. Whiting, \$468.00; Asst. Paymaster S. D. Huribut, \$270.50; Carpenter R. A. Williams, \$472.67; Boatswain J. Harding, \$523.80; Ed. T. Nichols, Jr., late Capt. Clerk, \$270.50; Lieut. E. D. Taussig, \$298.53; Commo. P. C. Johnson, \$1,421.25; Comdr. J. B. Coghill, \$374.75; Lieut. John Downes, \$320.50; W. J. Lamdin, \$287.48; N. N. Storey, Asst. Paymr., \$281.88; W. S. Bond, late Boatswain, \$306.90; Jas. G. Litting, Asst. Engr., \$326.43; Sidney L. Smith, P. A. Engr., \$119.40; W. T. Truxton, Captain, \$510; Geo. H. Cook, Surg., \$506.75; J. G. Eaton, Lieut., \$485.32; S. L. R. Ayres, Chief Engr., \$351.29; B. H. Buckingham, Lieutenant, \$258.32; Douglas R. Cassel, late Lieut.-Commander, \$534.81; Duncan Kennedy, Lieut., \$660.73; W. H. Summers, Acting Master, \$427.96; E. D. Robie, Chief Engr., \$420.99; W. W. Williams, Pay Insp., \$247.22; John K. Barton, P. A. Engr., \$268; M. L. Johnson, Comdr., \$169.56; S. F. Coates, Med. Dir., \$763.48; W. N. Watmough, Paymr., \$428.53; M. S. Stuyvesant, late Lieut.-Comdr., \$119.05; T. B. Watson, Gunner, \$256.20; J. C. Rich, Lieut., \$356.90; S. M. Ackley, Lieut., \$374.75; Thos. S. Phelps, Commo., \$17.67; F. E. Chadwick, Lieut.-Comdr., \$566.46; A. H. Gilman, Paymr., \$728.71; J. B. Redfield, Paymr., \$270.50; W. McMurry, late pay clerk, \$273.87; D. B. McComb, Chief Engineer, \$451.39; J. G. Thomas, carpenter, \$337.23; Joshua Bishop, Lieut.-Comdr., \$357.70; H. W. Robie, late Asst. Engr., \$577.59; Summer Pain, Lieutenant, \$253.62; Edward Hart, Naval Constructor, \$362.67; E. H. Willey, late Master, \$485.47; Geo. A. Morris, Lieut., \$258.32.

Lieutenant Chauncey Thomas, U. S. N., and Mrs. Thomas have fixed upon a house in R street as their place of residence for the winter.

A correspondent writes: The house presented to General Sheridan, No. 1617 Rhode Island avenue, is well adapted to the entertainment of large companies. The General seems particularly a family man and has a lively household.

Mrs. Audenried and Miss Audenried are prominent in Washington society.

A few changes are expected to take place in the personnel of the Army and Navy officers on duty here when President Cleveland takes his seat, but not many, as mostly all are holding regularly assigned positions, which will not be interfered with.

The Second Grand Ball of the Marine Guard of the Navy-yard will take place at Abner's Music Hall, Wednesday evening, Jan. 21. A good time is expected.

A return to old customs is the revival of the Scotch reel and "Sir Roger de Coverly," both of which were danced at the ball of the English Legation last week by the members of the dancing class, which has been meeting each Saturday, alternately, at Miss West's and the Misses May's. Among those who took part in the reel were the Misses West, Mrs. Hilary, Misses May, Miss Royal, Miss Garrison and Miss Howells, many members of the Diplomatic Corps and one or two Washington men, who were habitués of the dancing class.

Gen. J. J. Dana, U. S. A., is recovering from a recent severe attack of pneumonia.... The Monday forenoon concerts at the Marine Barracks are very enjoyable.... Lieut. C. P. Porter, U. S. M. C., is a recent addition to the Navy-yard here.... Gen. H. D. Wallen, U. S. A., is here on a short visit from New York.... Maj. John Green, U. S. A., and Mrs. Green, in from Fort Magrini, are at 715 21st street.... Lieut. Colon Augur, A. D. C., who came on to the Mann-Ray wedding, has returned to Fort Leavenworth.... Paymaster Tucker, U. S. A., and family are still here visiting, and the Major is temporarily taking charge of Paymaster Bates' official business.... Gen. W. D. Whipple, U. S. A., has been elected a member of the Piscataway Gun Club.

In accepting the resignation of Lieut. John H. Moore, the Directors of the Navy Mutual Aid Association say, in a letter addressed to him by the Secretary and Treasurer: "I am directed by a resolution of the Board of Directors of the Navy Mutual Aid Association to express to you the regret they experience on the occasion of your resignation as a

member and president of the association with whose foundation and growth your name is so intimately connected, and whose present condition of prosperity is the best tribute to your efficient service. The board wishes you a pleasant and profitable cruise and a safe return." Lieut. Moore has been a most useful officer, and the association is largely indebted to him for its success thus far. He will be greatly missed in Washington, and carries with him to the Marion the best of wishes from a host of friends. Capt. L. E. Fagan, M. C., Lieut. Commander R. M. Cutts and Ensign E. Wilkinson have been admitted to membership, making a total membership of 729. The quarterly report of the secretary and treasurer shows a balance on hand of \$32,826.24, of which \$31,900 is invested in 4 per cent. Government bonds. \$65,911.27 has been paid to beneficiaries since its organization.

Mr. P. N., in the New York *Graphic* says: "Mrs. Gen. Ricketts, a leader in the very exclusive Army and Navy set in Washington, will bring out a young daughter, Miss Daisy, early in January. The mother still defies time, and the presence of a tall, exquisitely molded and very lovely young daughter at her side only adds another grace to the accomplished lady. Miss Daisy has a harmonious figure, kindly gentle manners, with a touch of maidenly reserve; eyes as blue as a summer sky, a prettily celestial nose and cheeks, and a chin and lips perfectly modelled in the softest rose pink and purest white, and she has hair of that golden hue that poets sing of, and it curls all over her pretty head and around her fair young face, framing fittingly its rounded curves and dimples."

Major James C. McKee, Surgeon, U. S. A., is undergoing treatment in the Providence Hospital, at Washington, for a fracture of his hip joint, the result of an accident which occurred on the 19th of October last while on a visit to the stock farm of Dr. R. B. Woolfe, near Cincinnati, Ohio. He was thrown violently from a spring wagon, severely injuring his left hip joint. He was carried to a farmhouse near by, where he lay in great agony for several hours. After remaining there twelve days from thence by rail to Cincinnati, where he remained he was carried in a litter to the railroad cars, and until last month when he came to the Washington Hospital. He is confined to his bed there unable to move.

At the sixth annual meeting of the Army Mutual Aid Association, held on the 13th instant, there were thirty-six members present, representing personally and by proxy 568 votes. All the incumbents of offices were re-elected. Captain Geo. W. Davis, president; General Wm. B. Rochester, vice president; Lieutenant Wm. P. Duvall, secretary and treasurer; General R. C. Drum and General R. Murray, members of Executive Committee. A committee consisting of General H. J. Hunt, General O. D. Greene and Colonel F. Bridgeman, was appointed to audit the accounts of the treasurer for the past year. The membership January 1st, 1885, was 890; assessments levied for 1885 (one and a half per centum of 890) 13.

The following officers of the Army registered at the office of the Adjutant General during the current week: Colonel H. D. Wallen, retired, 141st street, S. E.; Major J. E. Tourtellotte, 7th Cavalry, Ebbitt House, on leave; Captain George M. Downey, 21st Infantry, Metropolitan Hotel, on leave; Capt. Sanford C. Kellogg, 5th Cavalry, Wormley's Hotel, on leave; Lieut. Henry H. Wright, 9th Cav., Ebbitt House, on leave; Colonel George Thom, retired, Welcker's Hotel, temporary residence; Lieut. William Roe, 3d Infantry, Ebbitt House, on leave; Lieut. John Millis, Engineers, 1618 R. I. avenue, on duty with Lighthouse Board; Capt. J. P. Story, 4th Artillery, 921 17th street, on leave, and Captain C. S. Isley, 7th Cav., Ebbitt House, on leave.

Quartermaster Sergeants Appointed.

The following named non-commissioned officers of the Army have been appointed Post-Quartermaster Sergeants to date from Jan. 8, 1885. Q. M. Sergeants:

Alexander Egger, 13th Inf.
George Adams, 10th Inf.
Henry Ahlers, 5th Inf.
Robert Fallon, 2d Cav.
John Berry, 2d Inf.
Horace E. Myrick, 9th Inf.
Gustave B. Lang, 11th Inf.
Samuel A. Trask, 4th Cav.
John McConnell, 6th Cav.
George A. Courtwright, 23d Inf.
John C. Marshall, 5th Cav.
George Wehrkamp, 3d Inf.
James Bowater, 21st Inf.
Henry Watson, 17th Inf.
Joseph Bauer, 3d Art.
Charles H. Allen, 15th Inf.
Frank C. Ingraham, 4th Inf.
Henry C. Smith, 14th Inf.
Charles Harvey, 1st Cav.

The following have been appointed to take office Jan. 10. Sergeant Majors:

Charles F. Rich, 18th Inf.
Charles Remi, 9th Inf.
August J. Moritz, 2d Inf.
Edw. F. Winters, 8th Cav.
Thos. J. Wiggin, 4th Inf.
Herman Geutzen, 22d Inf.
Benj. F. Davis, 9th Cav.
Edward R. Brown, 5th Art., and Chas. H. Bowcott, 1st Art.
Sergeants Charles Yeager, Co. H., and Thos. Grant, Co. F, 8th Inf.

These appointees will be assigned to forts this week. The Adjutant General will continue to issue warrants to enlisted men for positions as Post Quartermaster Sergeants as rapidly as they are recommended by the Q. M. General. Thirty-nine in all have been appointed thus far, eight more will be in a day or two and others from time to time as proceedings are made to receive them from the different boards and approved by the Q. M. General until the maximum number of 80 allowed by law has been reached. Unless the boards forward their papers more rapidly than they have been doing, it will be some time, however, before that number is reached.

THE ARMY.

NOMINATIONS TO THE SENATE.

January 14, 1885.

Medical Department—Lieut. Col. John E. Summers, Surg., to be Surgeon with the rank of Colonel, Jan. 9, 1885, vice Head, retired from active service. Major Joseph R. Smith, Surgeon, to be Surgeon with rank of Lieutenant Colonel, January 9, 1885, vice Summers, promoted. Capt. Egon A. Koerper, Asst. Surgeon, to be Surgeon, with the rank of Major, January 9, 1885, vice Smith, promoted. Henry J. Raymond, of Indiana, to be Asst. Surgeon, with rank of 1st Lieutenant, January 12, 1885, vice Koerper, promoted.

Corps of Engineers—1st Lieut. Smith J. Leach to be Captain, September 30, 1884, vice Mercer, resigned. 2d Lieut. Wm. C. Longfitt to be 1st Lieutenant, Sept. 30, 1884, vice Leach, promoted.

CONFIRMATIONS BY THE SENATE.

January 6, 1885.

1st Cavalry—1st Lieut. Thomas Garvey to be Captain, vice McGregor, promoted. 2d Lieut. W. C. Brown to be 1st Lieutenant, vice Garvey, promoted. 2d Cavalry—Capt. Thomas McGregor, 1st Cavalry, to be Major, vice Baker, deceased.

January 15, 1885.

6th Cavalry—1st Lieut. John B. Kerr to be Captain, Jan. 3, 1885, vice Abbott, retired from active service. 2d Lieut. Charles B. Gatewood to be 1st Lieutenant, Jan. 3, 1885, vice Kerr, promoted.

4th Infantry—1st Lieut. Henry Seton to be Captain, Jan. 3, 1885, vice Spencer, retired from active service. 2d Lieut. Leonard H. Lovering to be 1st Lieut., Jan. 3, 1885, vice Seton, promoted.

10th Infantry—2d Lieut. Henry Kirby to be 1st Lieut., Jan. 1, 1885, vice Van Vliet, appointed Adj't.

17th Infantry—1st Lieut. Wm. B. Rogers, Adj't., to be Capt., Dec. 23, 1884, vice Sanger, deceased.

G. O. 3, H. Q. A., Jan 9, 1885.

By direction of the Secretary of War, par. 1964 of the Regulations, as amended by G. O. 40, of 1883, is further amended to read as follows:

1964. The Quartermaster's Department is authorized to furnish transportation for articles purchased with hospital or company funds from place of purchase to the post or the station of the company; also for organs, melodeons, and other like musical instruments donated to military posts, and for books donated to post, regimental, and company libraries; provided, that this authority shall not be construed as authorizing the transportation from point of purchase to the post or the station of the company of any articles which are authorized to be kept for sale or issue by any supply department of the Army.

By command of Lieutenant General Sheridan:

R. C. DRUM, Adj't.-Gen.

G. O. 4, H. Q. A., Jan. 10, 1885.

By direction of the Secretary of War, par. 2505 of the Regulations is amended to read as follows:

2505. The Ordnance Dept. shall provide and issue such farrier and smith's tools and materials as may be required for the artillery and cavalry service, and the same shall be accounted for to the Ordnance Department.

The tools and materials now in the hands of the Quartermaster's Department and troop commanders, and which, under the provisions of the above paragraph before amendment, were accounted for to the Quartermaster's Department, will be considered as ordnance property, and accounted for accordingly.

By command of Lieutenant General Sheridan:

R. C. DRUM, Adj't.-Gen.

NOTE.—While the Ordnance Department has always furnished farrier and smith's tools and materials and horseshoes for the light artillery, yet there was no provision for that purpose in the Regulations—the insertion of the word "artillery" in par. 2505 is merely to correct that defect.

G. O. 5, H. Q. A., Jan. 12, 1885.

By direction of the Secretary of War, the scale of equivalents to govern in the issue and sale of fuel prescribed in G. O. 18, of 1874, No. 10, of 1882, and No. 33, of 1883, from this office, is modified so as to provide that one cord of average oak wood shall be held as the equivalent of one thousand six hundred and ninety-six pounds of Pennsylvania anthracite coals not therein specified; and the general orders named above are amended accordingly.

By command of Lieut.-Gen. Sheridan:

R. C. DRUM, Adj't.-Gen.

CIRCULAR 30, DEPT. OF THE MISSOURI, Dec. 31, 1884.

Publishes a list of sharpshooters and such marksmen as have made an average of 82 per cent. or over, during the target year ending Sept. 30, 1884.

Owing to the large number of marksmen who qualified during the year mentioned, as shown in the recapitulation hereto attached, it is impracticable to announce the names of all in orders; this will be remedied in the future by publications from time to time.

A copy of this circular will be posted in the barracks of each organization at the post, and in future copies of all orders or circulars announcing scores made in rifle practice will be so posted, that they can be conveniently seen and examined by the enlisted men. (G. O. 126, c. s., A. G. O.)

[The list gives a total of 109 Sharpshooters and 1130 Marksmen.]

G. O. 1, DEPT. OF ARIZONA, Jan. 7, 1885.

Calls the attention of officers serving in the Dept. to the excessive use of the telegraph in the transaction of public business, and the unnecessary expense incurred thereby.

STAFF CORPS AND DEPARTMENTS.

Quartermasters and Subsistence Departments.
Supt. John Bryson, upon being relieved from duty at the Cypress Hills National Cemetery, will proceed to Louisville, Ky., and assume charge of the Cave

Hill National Cemetery, relieving Supt. Thomas D. Goodman, who will proceed to Annapolis, Md., and assume charge of the National Cemetery there (Q. M. G. O., Jan. 13).

S. O. 285, relating to Commissary Sergt. Thomas Newton is revoked, and S. O. 279 relating to Commissary Sergt. Thomas Kimball is revoked (S. O., June 8, H. Q. A.)

Commissary Sergt. Thomas Kimball, now at Fort Craig, N. M., will proceed to Fort Wadsworth, N. Y., and report for duty (S. O., Jan. 8, H. Q. A.)

The leave of absence granted Capt. Frank E. Nye, C. S., Fort Monroe, Va., is extended ten days (S. O., Jan. 12, D. East).

Pay Department.

Major DeWitt C. Poole, Paymr., will proceed to Portland, Ore., on public business (S. O. 208, Dec. 29, D. Columbia).

A roster of the Pay Department received this week, shows a total of 1 Paymaster General, 2 Assistant Paymaster Generals, 3 Deputy Paymaster Generals, and 45 Paymasters, with the rank of Major. The number of these latter, authorized by existing law, being twenty-nine, no appointments can be made until seventeen Majors have been withdrawn by the casualties of service.

The resignation of Major William H. Smyth, Paymaster, has been accepted by the President to take effect Jan. 9, 1885 (S. O., Jan. 9, H. Q. A.)

Payment of troops, in the Department of the Columbia, on muster of December 31, will be made as follows: Lieut. Col. Rodney Smith, Deputy Paymr. Gen., at Fort Townsend and Canby, W. T., and at the sub-post of Fort Stevens. Major Henry B. Reese, Paymr., at Boise Barracks, Idaho. Major James P. Canby, Paymr., at Fort Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, and Spokane, W. T., and at the sub-post of Fort Colville, W. T. Major Daniel R. Larned, Paymaster, at Fort Walla Walla, W. T., and at the sub-post of Fort Lapwai, Idaho. Major DeWitt C. Poole, Paymr., Dept. H. Q., Vancouver Barracks, and Vancouver Barracks Ordnance Depot, W. T., and Fort Klamath, Ore. (S. O. 208, Dec. 29, D. Columbia.)

The leave of absence granted Major Wm. F. Tucker, Jr., Paymr., is extended one month (S. O., Jan. 10, H. Q. A.)

Major Alfred E. Bates, Paymr., will report to the Hon. the Secretary of State on detached service (S. O., Jan. 12, H. Q. A.)

Major Wm. F. Tucker, Jr., Paymr., now on leave in Washington, will discharge the duties of Major Alfred E. Bates, Paymr., during the temporary absence of the latter on detached service (S. O., Jan. 12, H. Q. A.)

Medical Department.

The extension of leave of absence on surgeon's certificate granted Capt. Frederick W. Elbrey, Asst. Surg., is still further extended six months, on surgeon's certificate of disability (S. O., Jan. 12, H. Q. A.)

A. A. Surg. G. E. Andrews is relieved from temporary duty at Whipple Barracks, and will return to Fort Huachuca (S. O. 2, Jan. 5, D. Arizona).

The following assignments, etc., are ordered: Surg. Wm. S. Tremaine is relieved from duty at Fort Porter, N. Y., and will await, at that post, the result of his recent application for a leave of absence on surgeon's certificate of disability. Asst. Surg. Alfred C. Girard, now awaiting orders, will proceed to Fort Porter, N. Y., and report for duty, relieving Asst. Surg. D. M. Appel, who will thereupon proceed to Plattburg Barracks, N. Y., and report for duty. Upon the arrival of Asst. Surg. Joseph Appel, at Plattburg Barracks, Asst. Surg. Joseph B. Girard will proceed to Fort Schuyler, N. Y. H., and report for duty, relieving Asst. Surg. Valery Havard, who may then avail himself of the leave of absence granted him (S. O. 8, Jan. 12, D. East).

The leave of absence granted Major Edwin Bentley, Surg., is extended two months (S. O., Jan. 10, H. Q. A.)

Lieut. Col. Basil Norris, Surg. and Medical Director, will proceed to Benicia Barracks, Cal., to inspect the hospital and confer with the medical officer at that station (S. O. 2, Jan. 5, D. Cal.)

So much of S. O. 204, c. s., as directs 1st Lieut. Philip G. Wales, Asst. Surg., to comply with S. O. 128, c. s., Div. Pacific, is suspended until further orders (S. O. 209, Dec. 30, 1884, D. Columbia.)

Capt. Samuel Q. Robinson, Asst. Surg., is assigned to temporary duty in the city of Portland, Ore. (S. O. 206, Dec. 22, D. Columbia.)

1st Lieut. Philip G. Wales, Asst. Surg., is relieved from temporary duty at Vancouver Barracks, W. T., and will proceed to Fort Coeur d'Alene, his proper station, after which he will comply with S. O. 128, c. s., of 1884, H. Q., Div. Pacific, for public service (S. O. 204, Dec. 19, D. Columbia.)

A furlough for four months is granted Hospital Steward Charles H. Fearn, Fort Grant, A. T. (S. O., Jan. 9, H. Q. A.)

Private Harry Harron, Co. H, 9th Infantry, was reappointed Hospital Steward, Jan. 7, 1885, and ordered to report to the Comdg. Gen., Dept. of the Platte, for duty (Letter, Jan. 8, A. G. O.)

The Q. M. D. will furnish transportation from San Antonio to Fort McIntosh, Texas, for Hospital Steward John Lemcke (S. O. 3, Jan. 7, D. Texas).

Engineers and Ordnance Department.

Ord. Sergeant Adolph Koch, whose term of service expires Jan. 27, will proceed to Fort Preble, Me., and report for discharge and re-enlistment (S. O. 7, Jan. 10, D. East).

The Comdg. Gen., Dept. East, will grant a furlough for four months to Ord. Sergt. Chas. Mulhern, Ship Island, Miss. (S. O., Jan. 12, H. Q. A.)

THE LINE.

1st Cavalry, Colonel Cuvier Grover.

Leave of absence for one month is granted Capt. William R. Parnell, Fort Maginnis, M. T. (S. O. 1, Jan. 2, D. Ak.)

2nd Cavalry, Colonel John P. Hatch.

A. G. C. M. will meet at Fort Leavenworth, Kas., Jan. 8, for the trial of 2d Lieut. A. M. Fuller (S. O. 1, Jan. 2, Dept. M.)

3rd Cavalry, Colonel Albert G. Brackett.

Troop F is relieved from duty at Fort Thomas, and will take station at Fort Grant (S. O. 2, Jan. 5, D. Ariz.)

Major C. H. Carlton will proceed to Fort Huachuca, under instructions furnished him by the Dept. Commander (S. O. 2, Jan. 5, D. Ariz.)

Q. M. Sergt. H. M. Mathis will be discharged the service of the U. S. (S. O., Jan. 13, H. Q. A.)

4th Cavalry, Colonel William B. Royall.

Col. W. B. Royall, 1st Lieut. J. H. Dorst, and 2d Lieut. H. C. Benson are detailed members of the G. C. M. at Fort Lowell, A. T. (S. O. 1, Jan. 2, D. Ariz.)

Capt. C. M. Callahan, having been discharged from attendance before the Army Retiring Board, will return to Fort McDowell (S. O. 1, Jan. 2, D. Ariz.)

S. O. 133, series 1884, is so far modified as to direct Capt. H. W. Lawton, after proceeding to Fort Huachuca, A. T., to report to Lieut.-Col. H. M. Lazelle, 2d Inf. Inspector, at Whipple Barracks, A. T., Jan. 10, via Albuquerque and Ash Fork, it being impracticable on account of snow and high water to proceed via Maricopa (S. O. 1, Jan. 2, Div. P.)

The leave of absence granted 1st Lieut. A. M. Patch, R. Q. M., is extended one month, with permission to go beyond the limits of the Division (S. O. 2, Jan. 5, Div. P.)

The presence of 1st Lieut. D. N. McDonald being no longer required before the Army Retiring Board, he will return to Fort McDowell (S. O. 2, Jan. 5, D. Ariz.)

The extension of leave of absence granted Lieut.-Col. George A. Forsyth is still further extended to Feb. 1 (S. O., Jan. 12, H. Q. A.)

1st Lieut. Fred. Wheeler, having reported to the Superintendent, is assigned to duty at the Cavalry Depot, Jefferson Bks., Mo. (S. O. 4, Jan. 10, M. R. S.)

5th Cavalry, Colonel Wesley Merritt.

The leave of absence granted 2d Lieut. A. C. Macomb, Fort Niobrara, Neb., is extended twenty-three days (S. O. 3, Jan. 9, D. Platte.)

6th Cavalry, Colonel Eugene A. Carr.

2d Lieut. Thomas Cruse is detailed recruiting officer at Fort Stanton, N. M. (S. O. 2, Jan. 5, Dept. M.)

The leave of absence on Surgeon's certificate granted Major David Perry is extended two months on Surgeon's certificate (S. O., Jan. 12, H. Q. A.)

This regiment qualified 14 sharpshooters during the target year ending Sept. 30, 1884.

7th Cavalry, Colonel Elmer Otis.

1st Lieut. H. S. Weeks, 8th Cav., A. C. S. at Fort Clark, Tex., is authorized to send, by express, to the Assistant Treasurer at New Orleans, La., \$1,000, public funds (S. O. 1, Jan. 2, D. Tex.)

Leave of absence for one month, from Dec. 18, 1884, on Surgeon's certificate of disability, is granted 2d Lieut. R. R. C. Cabell, Post of San Antonio, Tex. (S. O. 1, Jan. 2, D. Tex.)

The telegraphic instructions of Dec. 11, 1884, directing 2d Lieut. W. F. Flynn to return to Fort Clark from Marfa, are confirmed (S. O. 1, Jan. 2, D. Tex.)

9th Cavalry, Colonel Edward Hatch.

This regiment qualified 6 sharpshooters during the target year ending Sept. 30, 1884.

10th Cavalry, Colonel Benjamin H. Grierson.

2d Lieut. S. D. Freeman is authorized to purchase one public horse (S. O. 3, Jan. 7, D. Tex.)

1st Artillery, Colonel George P. Andrews.

The leave of absence for seven days granted 1st Lieut. Gilbert P. Cotton, Fort Canby, W. T., is extended twenty-one days (S. O. 209, Dec. 30, 1884, D. Columbia.)

Capt. Junius W. MacMurray, Act. Engr. Officer, will repair from Portland, Ore., to Dept. Hdqrs., on public business (S. O. 1, Jan. 2, D. Columbia.)

2nd Artillery, Colonel Romeyn B. Ayres.

The leave of absence granted 1st Lieut. James E. Eastman, Washington Barracks, D. C., is extended one month (S. O. 4, Jan. 12, Div. A.)

The leave of absence granted 2d Lieut. John T. Thompson, Fort McHenry, Md., is extended seven days (S. O. 3, Jan. 13, D. East.)

3rd Artillery, Colonel Horatio G. Gibson.

Official information has been received of the promotion of 1st Lieut. John F. Mount to Captain, Dec. 3, 1884, vice Kelly, deceased, which carries him from Bat. G, at St. Francis Barracks, Fla., to Bat. H, at Jackson Barracks, La.; 2d Lieut. Charles G. Woodward to 1st Lieutenant, Dec. 3, 1884, vice Mount, promoted, which carries him from Bat. E, at Fort Barrancas, to Bat. G, at St. Francis Barracks, Fla. Capt. Mount and 1st Lieut. Woodward will proceed to join their respective batteries (S. O. 7, Jan. 10, D. East.)

1st Sergt. Anton Guba, Bat. H, will return to Jackson Barracks, La., with permission to delay five days en route (S. O., Jan. 8, H. Q. A.)

5th Artillery, Colonel John Hamilton.

The leave granted Lieut. Alex. L. Morton is extended two months (S. O., Jan. 15, H. Q. A.)

Private Charles Gomes, Bat. L, will proceed to Fort Preble, Me., and report for temporary duty as Hospital Steward of the 3d Class (S. O. 9, Jan. 10, D. East.)

2nd Infantry, Colonel Frank Wheaton.

On the expiration of his leave, 1st Lieut. John K. Waring (Fort Spokane), now at Vancouver Barracks, will report for temporary duty to the C. O. of the post, pending resumption of travel on the route to his proper station, now blockaded by snow (S. O. 204, Dec. 18, 1884, D. Columbia.)

Major Leslie Smith is appointed to act as inspector on certain Q. M. stores, and C. C. and G. E., at Fort Klamath, for which 2d Lieut. Herbert H. Sargent, 2d Cav., Post Q. M., is accountable (S. O. 205, Dec. 20, 1884, D. Columbia.)

2d Lieut. V. J. Brumback is assigned to temporary duty in the city of Portland, Ore. (S. O. 206, Dec. 22, 1884, D. Columbia.)

The Q. M. Dept. will pay the Vancouver Transportation Company the usual fare for the transportation of 2d Lieut. W. R. Abercrombie, A. D. C., from Vancouver Barracks, W. T., to Portland, Ore., and return, on Dec. 18, 22, 24, and 29, the travel being on public business in connection with the affairs of the Alaska Military Expedition (S. O. 210, Dec. 31, 1884, D. Columbia.)

3rd Infantry, Colonel John R. Brooke.

Leave of absence for twenty days is granted 2d

Lieut. George Bell, Jr., Fort Missoula, M. T. (S. O. 2, Jan. 5, D. Dak.)

The leave of absence granted 1st Lieut. Fayette W. Roe is extended two months (S. O., Jan. 10, H. Q. A.)

The leave of absence on Surgeon's certificate granted Capt. James H. Gageby is extended two months on Surgeon's certificate (S. O., Jan. 10, H. Q. A.)

4th Infantry, Colonel William P. Carlin.

The sick leave of Lieut. Robt. H. Young has been extended six months (S. O., Jan. 15, H. Q. A.)

5th Infantry, Colonel John D. Wilkins.

Capt. Frank D. Baldwin, Acting Judge-Advocate, is authorized to purchase one public horse (S. O. 1, Jan. 2, D. Columbia.)

6th Infantry, Colonel August V. Kautz.

The leave of absence granted 2d Lieut. R. F. Ames is extended seven days (S. O. 1, Jan. 2, Div. P.)

7th Infantry, Colonel John S. Mason.

A roster of commissioned officers for January comes to hand this week, showing a total of 35-24 of whom are on duty with the regiments, 5 on detached duty, and 4 on leave or sick leave, and 1 in the Indian Asylum.

10th Infantry, Colonel Henry B. Clitz.

1st Lieut. R. C. Van Vleet, Adj't., is appointed recruiting officer at Fort Union, N. M., vice 1st Lieut. J. F. Stretch, promoted Captain (S. O. 2, Jan. 5, Dept. M.)

This regiment qualified 7 sharpshooters during the target year ending Sept. 30, 1884.

Joseph Frederick Berger, deserter from the 10th Infantry, who surrendered at the Presidio of San Francisco some time ago, jumped overboard Jan. 6, while being taken to Alcatraz Island, and was drowned. The body was not recovered.

11th Infantry, Colonel Richard L. Dodge.

Leave of absence for one month is granted 2d Lieut. Benjamin F. Handforth, Fort Sully, D. T. (S. O. 1, Jan. 2, D. Dak.)

12th Infantry, Colonel Orlando B. Willcox.

Leave of absence for one month and fifteen days, to commence on or about Feb. 10, is granted Capt. J. L. Viven, Plattsburgh Barracks, N. Y. (S. O. 5, Jan. 14, Div. A.)

13th Infantry, Colonel Luther P. Bradley.

This regiment qualified 12 sharpshooters during the target year ending Sept. 30, 1884.

14th Infantry, Colonel Lewis C. Hunt.

Major William F. Drum, Inspector, will proceed to Portland, Ore., under special instructions (S. O. 206, Dec. 22, 1884, D. Columbia.)

The leave of absence on Surgeon's certificate granted 1st Lieut. Charles A. Johnson is extended four months on Surgeon's certificate (S. O., Jan. 10, H. Q. A.)

16th Infantry, Colonel Matthew M. Blunt.

The leave of absence granted Major Horace Jewett, Fort Stockton, Tex., is extended one month (S. O. 7, Jan. 10, Div. M.)

Private Hugh Conn, Co. I, will report for examination for the position of Post Q. M. Sergeant to the Board of Officers at Fort Davis, Tex. (S. O. 2, Jan. 5, D. Tex.)

17th Infantry, Colonel Charles C. Gilbert.

A G. C.-M. will meet at Fort Leavenworth, Kas., Jan. 8, for the trial of 2d Lieut. Wm. English (S. O. 1, Jan. 2, Dept. M.)

19th Infantry, Colonel Charles H. Smith.

Leave of absence for one month, on Surgeon's certificate of disability, is granted Capt. Richard Vance, Fort Clark, Tex. (S. O. 1, Jan. 2, D. Tex.)

20th Infantry, Colonel Elwell S. Otis.

This regiment qualified 18 sharpshooters during the target year ending Sept. 30, 1884.

21st Infantry, Colonel Henry A. Morrow.

The leave of absence granted 2d Lieut. John S. Parke, Jr., is extended seven days (S. O. 6, Jan. 9, Div. M.)

22nd Infantry, Colonel Peter T. Swaine.

This regiment qualified 10 sharpshooters during the target year ending Sept. 30, 1884.

23rd Infantry, Colonel Henry M. Black.

Q. M. Sergt. Paul Harne (late sergeant Co. E), now at Fort Mackinac, will proceed to Fort Wayne, Mich., and report for duty (S. O. 10, Jan. 14, D. East.)

24th Infantry, Colonel Joseph H. Potter.

This regiment qualified 37 sharpshooters during the target year ending Sept. 30, 1884.

Appointments, Promotions, Retirements, Transfers, Casualties, etc., of Commissioned Officers of the U. S. Army recorded in the Adjutant-General's Office during the week ending Saturday, January 10, 1885.

APPOINTMENT.

Jefferson R. Kean, of Virginia, to be Assistant Surgeon with the rank of 1st Lieutenant, December 8, 1884, vice McDowell, promoted.

PROMOTIONS.

Lieutenant-Colonel John Campbell, Surgeon, to be Surgeon with the rank of Colonel, December 7, 1884, vice Hammond, retired from active service.

Major Richard H. Alexander, Surgeon, to be Surgeon with the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel, December 7, 1884, vice Campbell, promoted.

Captain Henry McElderry, Assistant Surgeon, to be Surgeon with the rank of Major, December 7, 1884, vice Alexander, promoted.

Captain Thomas McGregor, 1st Cavalry, to be Major, 2d Cavalry, December 19, 1884, vice Baker, deceased.

1st Lieutenant John F. Mount, 3d Artillery, to be Captain, December 3, 1884, vice Kelly, deceased.

1st Lieutenant Washington I. Sanborn, 25th Infantry, to be Captain, December 4, 1884, vice Kendall, retired from active service.

1st Lieutenant John F. Stretch, Adjutant 10th In-

fantry, to be Captain, December 6, 1884, vice Craig, deceased.

1st Lieutenant Thomas Garvey, 1st Cavalry, to be Captain, December 19, 1884, vice McGregor, promoted to the 2d Cavalry.

2d Lieutenant Edward H. Plummer, 10th Infantry, to be 1st Lieutenant, November 29, 1884, vice Bottford, deceased.

2d Lieutenant Charles G. Woodward, 3d Artillery, to be 1st Lieutenant, December 3, 1884, vice Mount, promoted.

2d Lieutenant Edwin F. Glenn, 25th Infantry, to be 1st Lieutenant, December 4, 1884, vice Sanborn, promoted.

2d Lieutenant William C. Brown, 1st Cavalry, to be 1st Lieutenant, December 19, 1884, vice Garvey, promoted.

RETIREMENT.

Colonel John F. Head, Surgeon, January 9, 1885 (act June 30, 1882).

CASUALTIES.

Major William H. Smyth, Paymaster, resigned January 9, 1885.

Professor James Mercur, U. S. Military Academy, resigned his commission as Captain, Corps of Engineers, only, September 30, 1884.

Chaplain Vincent Palen (retired), died December 18, 1884, at Camden, New Jersey.

Military Academy.

Leave of absence until Aug. 28, 1885, is, on account of ill health, granted Cadet Jesse Edwards, 3d Class (S. O., Jan. 9, H. Q. A.)

Courts-martial.

The following courts have been ordered:

At Fort Leavenworth, Kas., Jan. 8, for the trial of 2d Lieuts. A. M. Fuller, 2d Cav., and Wm. English, 17th Inf. Detail: Major J. J. Upham, 5th Cav.; Major J. S. Poland, 18th Inf.; Major G. V. Henry, 9th Cav.; Major Thomas Wilson, Sub. Capt. E. B. Williston, 2d Art.; Capt. Loyd Wheaton, 20th Inf.; Capt. J. E. Greer, Ord. Dept.; Capt. Edmund Rice, 5th Inf.; Capt. W. S. Edgerly, 7th Cav.; Capt. R. G. Armstrong, 1st Inf.; 1st Lieut. Lotus Niles, 2d Art., and 1st Lieut. F. H. Edmunds, 1st Inf., Judge-Advocate (S. O. 1, Jan. 2, Dept. M.)

At Whipple Barracks, A. T., Jan. 5. Detail: Col. A. G. Brackett, Capt. H. W. Wessells, Jr., and 1st Lieut. E. Z. Steever, Adj't., 3d Cav.; 1st Lieut. Matthew Markland, 1st Inf.; 1st Lieut. F. H. Hardie, R. Q. M., 3d Cav.; 1st Lieut. C. C. Barrows, Asst. Surg.; 2d Lieut. E. E. Benjamin, 1st Inf., and 2d Lieut. T. R. Elvers, 3d Cav., Judge-Advocate (S. O. 3, Jan. 7, D. Ariz.)

At San Antonio, Tex., Jan. 12. Detail: Capt. J. M. Lancaster, 3d Art.; 1st Lieuts. E. A. Godwin, R. Q. M., and S. W. Fountain, 8th Cav.; 1st Lieut. J. E. Myers, 3d Art.; 1st Lieut. T. J. C. Maddox, Asst. Surg.; 1st Lieut. Eugene Cushman, 16th Inf.; 2d Lieut. D. J. Rumbough, 3d Art., and 1st Lieut. R. A. Williams, 8th Cav., Judge-Advocate (S. O. 3, Jan. 7, D. Tex.)

At Fort Stockton, Tex., Jan. 12. Detail: Lieut.-Col. J. F. Wade, 10th Cav.; Capt. W. G. Wedemeyer, 16th Inf.; Capt. P. L. Lee, 10th Cav.; Capt. L. S. Tesson, Asst. Surg.; 1st Lieut. G. H. Palmer, 16th Inf.; 2d Lieut. S. D. Freeman, 10th Cav.; 2d Lieut. C. P. George, 16th Inf., and 1st Lieut. W. H. Beck, 10th Cav., Judge-Advocate (S. O. 3, Jan. 7, D. Tex.)

At Fort Porter, N. Y., Jan. 15. Detail: Major J. S. Fletcher, Jr., and Capt. T. M. K. Smith, 2d Inf.; Capt. L. C. Forsyth, Q. M. Dept.; Capt. Otis W. Pollock, 1st Lieuts. Charles Hay and Julius H. Pardee, 2d Inf., and 2d Lieut. J. K. Thompson, 2d Inf., Judge-Advocate (S. O. 9, Jan. 13, D. East.)

Army Boards.

A Board of Survey, to consist of Capt. H. W. Wessells, Jr., and 1st Lieut. F. H. Hardie, R. Q. M., 3d Cav., and 2d Lieut. E. E. Benjamin, 1st Inf., will meet at Whipple Barracks, Jan. 2, to report upon the damaged condition of certain stores delivered on bills of lading (S. O. 124, Dec. 31, 1884, D. Ariz.)

A Board of Survey, to consist of 1st Lieut. E. Z. Steever, Adj't., 3d Cav.; 1st Lieut. Matthew Markland, 1st Inf., and 2d Lieut. T. R. Rivers, 3d Cav., will meet at Whipple Depot, Jan. 3, to report upon the circumstances attending delay in delivery of stores (S. O. 1, Jan. 2, D. Ariz.)

A Board of Survey, to consist of Lieut.-Col. H. W. Clossen, Capt. Wm. E. Van Reed, and 2d Lieut. Elwin B. Babbitt, 5th Art., will meet at Fort Wadsworth, N. Y. H., Jan. 15, to inquire into an alleged deficiency in ordnance property pertaining to that post, and for which 1st Lieut. E. L. Zalinski, 5th Art., is responsible (S. O. 9, Jan. 13, D. East.)

A Board of Survey, to consist of Major Henry Goodfellow, J.-A.; Capt. G. B. Russell, 9th Inf., and 2d Lieut. H. C. Hodges, Jr., 2d Inf., will meet at Dept. Hdqrs., Jan. 12, to fix the responsibility for the loss of two odometers and one prismatic compass, for which Capt. John E. Greer, Ord. Dept., is responsible (S. O. 4, Jan. 9, Dept. M.)

The date of the meeting of the Board of Officers convoked at Fort Niagara, N. Y., is changed from Wednesday, Jan. 14, to Wednesday, Jan. 21, 1885 (S. O. 8, Jan. 12, D. East.)

Precautions in Handling Loaded Rifles.

Lieut. General Sheridan in a circular letter, calls the attention of officers to the necessity of instructing the soldier, after loading the rifle, to relinquish all pressure upon the trigger, when in bringing the hammer from a full cock to either the half or safety cock, or from the half to the safety cock positions, as soon as the nose of the sear has passed the notch on the tumbler just above the one in which it is desired to engage it. When this precaution is neglected it has been found possible to so engage the sear-nose on the edge of the tumbler-notches that but a very slight touch upon the trigger, or only a jar of the piece, will be necessary to free it and permit the hammer to fall upon the firing pin, giving a blow which, while generally not sufficient, may yet in some cases explode the cartridge. This peculiarity of the lock is independent of the character of the surface of the sear-nose and ends of the tumbler-notches, and is inherent in the mechanism of all fire-arms in which the pressure on the sear passes through or near its centre of motion.

The proper remedy can be found only in the careful instruction of the soldier. (Letter A. G. O., Jan. 5, 1885.)

Clothing Allowance.—The Secretary of War has directed that each enlisted man of the Infantry arm of the service be allowed, in addition to the clothing allowance for the fiscal year 1884-1885, the sum of two dollars for altering his uniform dress coat and trousers to conform to the requirements of G. O. 120, of 1884, A. G. O.

The Artillery School.—The school for enlisted men reopened January 5, the course of studies for enlisted men other than non-commissioned officers being supervised by Lieut. A. G. Tassin, 12th U. S. Infantry.

Record Books.—The books to be supplied by the Q. M. D., under G. O. 100, A. G. O., of 1884, are new and different in size and quality from those heretofore supplied. (Q. M. G. O., Dec. 26, 1884.)

DEPARTMENT NEWS.

Dept. of the Missouri.—Brig. Gen. C. C. Augur.

40 commissioned officers and 69 enlisted men of this Department qualified as sharpshooters during the target year ending September 30, 1884. 15 sharpshooters left the Department before the close of the target year.

The *El Paso Times* speaks in glowing terms of the strategical importance of Fort Bliss and, referring to the present garrison, Companies D and H, 10th Infantry, says: "The soldiers are orderly and well disciplined, and off duty fraternize with the town people. The officers although but a short time in our midst have made many friends among our citizens. Dr. H. P. Birmingham, Assistant Surgeon, has charge of the hospital department. In addition the officers have their families with them and, together with citizens in their location, form quite a little society circle of mutual pleasure and entertainment."

A despatch from Little Rock, January 14, reports General Hatch as ready to march on the camp of the Oklahoma Boomers, and that a battle is imminent. The colonists are encamped on Still Water, at a point admirably adapted for defensive operations. They number nearly four hundred men and are armed with rifles, shotguns and pistols, but they have no artillery. Lieutenant Day is camped on the Cimarron, some miles from Fort Reno, with a company of soldiers. He attempted to take the colonists December 24, but they refused to surrender, and after a brief parley he returned to camp to await further orders. General Hatch intends making a formal request on the colonists to surrender, and if refused he will play on the camp with the battery, demolishing it. He hopes to avoid bloodshed, and will not expose the lives of the soldiers, unless compelled to do so. The excitement in the immediate vicinity of the prospective battle ground is reported as being intense. The colonists declare that if defeated and forced to surrender, they will set fire to the grass and burn out every cattle ranch in the Indian Territory.

Dept. of the East.—Major Gen. W. S. Hancock.

The Army pay station at Savannah, Ga., vacant by the resignation of Paymaster Smyth, has been abolished, and the troops at St. Augustine, Fla., and Augusta Arsenal, Ga., will hereafter be paid by the Paymaster stationed at New Orleans.

Major G. L. Gillespie, of the Corps of Engineers, has submitted to Gen. Newton, Chief of Engineers, a report relative to the deepening of Gedney's Channel through Sandy Hook Bar, New York. He estimates the cost of improving Gedney's Channel at \$350,000, and of the Main Channel, \$620,000. The Board of Engineers recommends several improvements for deepening the harbor so as to give 30 feet of water from New York to the ocean, the cost of which is estimated at from \$5,000,000 to \$6,000,000.

Dept. of California.—Major Gen. John Pope.

The *San Francisco News Letter* says: "Angel Island is once more coming to the front, and the announcement of a series of afternoon receptions, to be given by the officers and their wives now stationed there, has been received with much pleasure by all those whose memories retain recollections of the charming parties given there in the past. The first of the series took place last Saturday afternoon. The headquarters at the Island were tastefully dressed with greens and bunting, and dancing was indulged in for an hour or more. Two more receptions are announced for next month, and the weather proving propitious, it goes without saying that they will be very enjoyable little parties."

Dept. of Dakota.—Brig. Gen. Alfred H. Terry.

A Fort Assiniboine correspondent of the *Helena Independent* writes: "By official order, the spelling of this place is again changed to 'Assiniboine' instead of 'Assinnaboine.' We do not know how long this will last, but we will try it and see. The only difficulty in writing it is that one has to stop and count when he finishes all the 'n's' to commence on the 'i.' Quiet reigns here. There are very few deserters and few in the guard house. I think it will be difficult to find a post of this size in the country with so few cases for Court Martial. The weather has been very cold here, having been as low as 50 below zero, perhaps lower. The officers and men all seem to be very comfortable. Chaplain Todd returned from a visit east, and has conducted a very interesting and instructive Christmas service. Adjutant Bates and Mrs. Bates have just returned from a visit to Washington."

Dept. of Texas.—Brig. Gen. D. S. Stanley.

The Post Office at Fort Concho having been absorbed by that of San Angelo, the address of that post is now 'Fort Concho, San Angelo, Tom Green County, Texas.'

The detachment of Seminole Negro-Indian scouts at Fort Clark, Texas, will march to Camp Pena, Colorado, and, upon arrival there, the commanding

officer of Fort Davis, Texas, will assign a lieutenant of cavalry to their command. The commanding officer at Camp Pena Colorado, will then direct the detachment, accompanied by ten enlisted men of Troop A, 10th Cav., to proceed to Willow Springs, Texas, there establish a camp, and therefrom to scout the country in all practicable directions. The combined force will continue on the duty indicated until March 1 next, when other arrangements are contemplated. (S. O. I, Dept. Texas, Jan. 2.)

175 cavalry horses sent to the Department have been distributed by General Stanley as follows: 93 to the 8th Cavalry and 82 to the 10th Cavalry.

The report of the Adjutant General of the State of Texas frontier operations since 1865, justifying her claim on the general Government for indemnity, notes 416 people killed and seventy-nine wounded by these murderous band of raiders, and eighty-one carried into captivity; 21,608 horses and mules, 43,393 cattle and 2,430 sheep and goats were stolen or killed, besides much other property and money carried off or destroyed.

The Brackett News says: "Under the able management of Chaplain S. M. Merrill, of Fort Clark, the attendance at Sunday school is larger than ever. The Chaplain having spent a number of years in pastorate work, is perfectly at home in the Sunday school. We learn that a prominent gentleman of Fort Clark offered to contribute toward the purchase of books and papers, and that Captain O. B. Boyd, 8th Cavalry, has promised to deliver one of his famous lectures, generously giving the proceeds to the Sunday school."

Dept. of the Columbia.—Brig. Gen. N. A. Miles.

Circular No. 17, D. C., Vancouver Barracks, W. T., December 13, 1884, publishes the results of the classification in marksmanship in the Department in 1884, and the report of the Inspector of Rifle Practice of the Department.

Lieut. J. N. Allison, 2d Cavalry, the Inspector of Rifle Practice of the Department, in submitting the annual return to his Department Commander, says: Owing to the serious interruption of the practice, occasioned by changes of station of regiments and companies, and the garrisons—in some cases entire—of different posts during the year, any general comparison of the present record with that of past years would appear idle. The 2d Cavalry and 14th Infantry, aggregating nearly seventy per cent. of the number of men firing during the year, entered the Department during the summer from Montana and Colorado to contend with entirely new conditions of climate, temperature and atmospheric phenomena. The 2d Cavalry had practically no opportunity for practice from April 17 to July 15, thus losing the best part of the practice season, while the advantages enjoyed by the 14th Infantry were hardly greater. Nevertheless, both of these regiments succeeded in raising their figure of merit—the first from 33.62 in 1883 to 35.27 in 1884, and the latter from 41.62 to 47.71.

The only troops in the Department who were allowed comparatively uninterrupted practice, are the 2d Infantry and the two batteries of the 1st Artillery. A comparison of the return of the 2d Infantry with its record of last year shows a marked improvement and raising of the figure of merit of regiment and companies that speaks well for the energy and interest displayed by officers and men.

Lieut. Allison expresses his belief that a more equitable system of awards might be adopted without prejudice to the general result by limiting the time during which qualification as sharpshooter and marksman may be accomplished, and suggests the best months are June and September, which are, in all portions of any country, well adapted to rifle practice, the weather being generally mild and atmosphere clear.

The Figure of Merit of the Department is 46.73 against 31.18 in 1883. Fort Spokane leads the posts with 33.87. By regiments the Figure of Merit is 2d Cavalry 35.27, 1st Artillery (2 batteries) 44.05, 2d Infantry 50.79, 14th Infantry 47.71. Twenty-seven sharpshooters qualified in 1884. The return presents most creditable results.

The Vancouver Independent of January 1 says: "No eastern mail has been received at Headquarters for nearly three weeks, and matters are decidedly quiet in consequence."

FORT OMAHA, NEBRASKA.

NOTICING a concert given in Omaha by the band of the Fourth Infantry, the *Excelsior* of that city says: This band is one of the best in the Service, and had prepared a thoroughly good programme, assisted by the Omaha Glee Club. The concert was held at the Opera House, and much appreciated and applauded by the few present. We doubt if we ever heard any of Wagner's music better given by a band of the same size. The same paper says: Dr. Lewis is the chaplain at Fort Omaha, and has kindly officiated at the cathedral in the city during the Dean's absence in Europe. His sermons have been of a character to particularly attract young men—composed with vigor, clothed in beautiful English, and adorned with telling quotations which evinced a remarkable familiarity with Scriptural literature. Dr. Lewis was for fifteen years in charge of the important parish of St. John's, Washington. By coming in from the fort he has hoped to interest our people in his work of building up the chapel there, that the officers, the soldiers and their children may attend divine service with some degree of comfort. The chapel is in one end of a large, bare room, at the other end of which is a stage for amateur theatricals. The hard-working chaplain has given a decidedly church-like appearance to his end of this combination hall by ingenious paper hanging, and the best use of means at hand. The choir is made attractive by the fine voice of Lieutenant Lomia, who occasionally gives as a solo some Italian hymn. In and about the garrison are some sixty children, and for these, as well as for the prisoners (who cannot be permitted to leave the guard house at night), Dr. Lewis proposes to establish a morning service. The "regulation" service in the Army of course is evening. It will be observed that the names of many prominent Army officers are connected with the organization of the charity ball. It is the intention of the managers, we believe, to interest the officers of the Department of the Platte, stationed in

Omaha and at the Fort, particularly in this scheme. General Hawkins represents the Army on the executive committee.

(Correspondence of the Army and Navy Journal.)

FORT YATES, D. T.

JANUARY 4, 1885.

CAPTAIN E. S. GODFREY, 7th Cavalry, had a pleasant gathering of the officers and ladies of the garrison at his quarters, to see the old year out and the new year in. An excellent supper was served exactly as the clock struck 12 M., when all joined in the toast "Welcome to the New Year."

Major Casey, our new Commanding Officer, with his family, arrived last Tuesday evening, coming through in one day from Fort Lincoln.

The mail from Bismarck to Fort Yates has been very irregular for some time past, and has been going on from bad to worse until it is a source of great inconvenience, as well as annoyance, to the officers, whose important letters are often from 12 to 24 hours late in reaching their destination, and on the return trip are so late in arriving at Bismarck as to be held over until the next day, being too late for the train. Some action should be taken to rectify it and make the responsible parties live up to their contract and give us a daily mail to which we are entitled.

ALLAN.

(Correspondence Army and Navy Journal.)

RIFLE TOURNAMENT.

FORT BIDWELL, Dec. 26, 1884.

DESPITE the fact that we are located among the clouds and about 200 miles from railroad communication, we managed to enjoy ourselves on Christmas Day, 1884. But the crowning event of the day was the rifle tournament, the leading feature of which was a team match for a purse of \$75, to be fired at 200 yards standing, any rifle, 10 shots each contestant, and open to any number of organized teams composed of six members each. Capt. E. J. Spaulding, 2d Cavalry, was judge and executive officer. Five teams participated with the following results:

EIGHTH INFANTRY (CO. F).

Score.

Maj. Burt, Post Commander.....	40
Corporal Stewart.....	39
Private Strefeler.....	40
Private Miles.....	37
Private Lowe.....	35
Private Cowser.....	33

Total..... 224

SECOND CAVALRY (TROOP C).

1st Lieut. Huntington, Post Adjutant.....	33
Sergeant Brannan.....	35
Corporal Food.....	38
Private Foley.....	42
Private Riley.....	37
Private O'Brien.....	30

Total..... 215

CITIZENS, FORT BIDWELL.

Mr. Lowell.....	40
Mr. Hall.....	41
Mr. Neasham.....	41
Mr. Bucher.....	34
Mr. Buchanan.....	34
Judge Rinn.....	33

Total..... 223

INDEPENDENTS.

Mr. Sites.....	41
Mr. Poindexter.....	39
Mr. Brown.....	38
Mr. Anderson.....	36
Mr. Harrington.....	35
Mr. Batchelor.....	32

Total..... 221

PAH-UITE INDIANS.

George, sub-Chief.....	34
Pah-Uite, No. 2.....	35
Pah-Uite, No. 3.....	34
Pah-Uite, No. 4.....	33
Pah-Uite, No. 5.....	24
Pah-Uite, No. 6.....	20

Total..... 180

As may be seen from the above, Co. F, 8th Infantry, won the prize by one point. The shooting of the leading teams was considered exceptionally good under the circumstances; the weather was very unfavorable. At the commencement, and during the tournament, the wind blew across the range at the rate of about ten miles an hour, but not steadily. It came in prolonged puffs, which, taken in conjunction with the steady down pour of rain, required all the knowledge and skill of the riflemen to combat.

The shooting was pretty close between the two leading teams, so much so that the winning of the prize depended on our commanding officer, Major Burt, who shot last in the infantry team. The excitement was quite intense between the time he fired his last shot and when the result became known; had it been a magpie the citizens of Bidwell would have carried off the coveted prize, but when the four disk loomed up close to the bull's eye, quite a relief was experienced by the boys of the 8th Foot. It was a close shave, and citizens and soldiers alike should be commended for their excellent scores, which were made under such disadvantageous circumstances.

One special feature of the contest was the Indian team, who stolidly pegged away at their target, apparently indifferent to the weather. Considering their lack of practice at target firing, they made a pretty fair showing.

Later on in the day a 50-yard contest was had, for three prizes. Conditions: Any rifle—ten rounds each competitor. After a spirited contest, Judge Rinn took first prize, Mr. Neasham second, and Lieutenant Huntington third. Several others secured individual prizes. This ended the tournament, and notwithstanding the depressing effect of

the storm which raged during the contest, everybody seemed to enjoy the sport, and a good deal of coin changed hands.

The Christmas festivities ended with a grand ball, held at Mr. Topp's hotel, which was well attended, and which lasted till the "wee sma hours of boxing day."

(Correspondence of the Army and Navy Journal.)

WHIPPLE BARRACKS, PRESCOTT, ARIZONA.

JAN. 3, 1885.

AFTER wishing you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year, I have to say that we are getting along very comfortably indeed here, and do not, as a general thing, long for the flesh pots of the far East. In fact, several of the old staggers here are satisfied with their lot in Arizona, and have no desire whatever to make a change.

On New Year's Day all of the officers connected with the headquarters of the Department of Arizona, together with those belonging to this post, called in a body upon Colonel Brackett, the post commander, and paid their respects. After partaking of some refreshments, which had been prepared by Mrs. Brackett, the whole of the officers proceeded to General Crook's quarters, and wished him and Mrs. Crook a Happy New Year. As the general has endeared himself to every officer and man of his command, this was no formal affair, but was given with hearty good will, which he thoroughly appreciated. Some refreshments were also taken here, when the officers proceeded in a body to Prescott, and paid their respects to Governor Tritle, who has earned the good will of the people of this Territory by his attention to business, as well as the whole souled manner he has of treating everybody.

Afterwards the officers called upon several of the ladies who were "receiving" in town and at the barracks, and in the evening attended a party given by Doctor Ainsworth, in Prescott. There was good will and kindness in every direction, and if the "Hassayampers," as the Arizonians are called, do not know how to enjoy themselves no people do.

This evening General and Mrs. Crook, with Major and Mrs. Barber and Lieutenant McDonald, 4th Cavalry, are the guests of Colonel and Mrs. Brackett at dinner.

Santa Claus came around Christmas evening and left nice presents for everyone, old and young. On Christmas Day there was many a fat turkey dressed, and dinner parties seemed to have broken out in every direction. We are all getting along well enough, and have no reason to complain of anything.

YAVAPAI.

We observe that the Omaha, Neb., *Excelsior* says: Mrs. John A. Horbach, accompanied by Mrs. Watson, returned to Omaha last week from an extended visit to Mrs. Captain Bourke (Mollie Horbach), at Fort Whipple, Arizona. Mrs. Horbach pronounces the society of Fort Whipple as charming, an unusual number of very delightful ladies being gathered there.—EDITOR JOURNAL.

(Correspondence of the Army and Navy Journal.)

FORT OMAHA, NEB.

JANUARY 10, 1885.

THE intensely cold weather of the last two weeks has made a magnificent ice crop, and congealed coldness, as clear as glass and a foot and a half thick, is now being harvested for the post.

Lieutenant Price, our energetic Adjutant, has returned from the East, and is once more at his daily place at Headquarters.

Lieutenant Robinson, Regimental Quartermaster, is away on leave of absence. Lieutenant True being Acting Q. M.

Lieut. Seton got his promotion to a Captaincy this week, and is receiving numerous congratulations.

The band of the regiment gave an enjoyable and profitable entertainment a few evenings since at Boyd's Opera House, Omaha. They were assisted by the Omaha Glee Club.

The event of the week has been the trial by a General Court Martial at Omaha, of Dr. Stephenson, assistant to the Post Surgeon. The charges are neglect of duty in regard to a sick soldier in the hospital, ill with typhoid fever, and were preferred by General Carlin, commanding the post. Lieutenant Coffin, of the Light Battery, 5th Artillery, is the Judge Advocate, and Lieutenant Kingman, Omaha, is the counsel for Dr. Stephenson.

A large number of officers and ladies will attend the Grand Charity Ball at Boyd's Opera House, Omaha, Wednesday night, 14th inst. It will be the most elegant affair of the kind ever held in these parts.

Lieut. O'Brien, recently ordered here from Fort Russell, has arrived and is now on duty.

B.

(Correspondence of the Army and Navy Journal.)

A TISSUE PAPER PARTY.

FORT YATES, DAKOTA, JAN. 5, 1885.

A UNIQUE entertainment was given at our post on the evening of Jan. 1, 1885, by Lieut. and Mrs. D. H. Brush, of the 17th Infantry, who issued their cards of invitation for a tissue paper, fancy dress party. The invitations appearing early, time was given for the preparation of some beautiful costumes. Of those worthy of particular mention was that of Miss Annie Rapp, of Carbondale, Ill., a sister of Mrs. Brush. The character was the sunflower, and the entire costume was made of yellow tissue paper, the skirt of walking length, trimmed with a paper ruffle or flounce. Above these several rows of fringed paper gracefully hung, surmounted by a border of sunflowers of yellow paper, with brown plush centres. These were very effective, as well as beautiful. The over dress was caught here and there with sunflowers, and the earrings, corsage bouquet, and even the tips of her dainty slippers were trimmed to carry out the idea. The fan was a work of art, being one immense sunflower of paper leaves, with plush centre. Mrs. Brush's character of music was represented by a costume of white tissue paper, a score of music forming the trimming upon the lower skirt, the belt, and pastron—a pretty plush guitar carried in her hand completing the costume.

Mrs. Capt. O'Brien's dress was of lavender paper, with handsome lace over dress, lavender ribbons, and pink paper roses. Miss La Riviere, as flower girl, was elaborately decorated with paper flowers. The Misses Casey, who have just arrived at our post, were welcome additions to the gay revellers, their costumes of white and blue, and white and pink, with their pretty paper cape being much admired.

The gentlemen were, most of them, in Continental costume, knee-breeches, paper vests, ruffles, etc. Messrs. Watson and Bertie Gilbert represented gay cavaliers in full paper costumes.

Captain McDougall, of the 7th Cavalry, represented the Marquis De Lafayette. His suit of black, with yellow paper facings, white paper ruffles, knee-breeches and Continental

hat, was very handsome, and, with his powdered hair, was very becoming". Mr. Faulkner, as a Highlander, was handsomely dressed in a paper suit. Captain Rogers, 17th Infantry, in the character of George Washington, was dressed in Continental uniform with powdered hair, and looked extremely well.

The Opera House, which served as ball room, was handsomely decorated with flags, and the 17th Infantry orchestra, under the leadership of Prof. Bartley, gave us the very best of music. The supper served by our fair hostess was elaborate and elegant; the tables were covered with tissue paper, and the paper napkins, prettily pinked, were kept as trophies by the guests, as well as the corsage bouquet of roses provided for each lady, and the boutonniere for each gentleman, which were found in the dressing room upon our arrival. The dancing cards, with their pretty tissue paper coverings, were very ornamental.

The whole affair was complete in detail and perfect in plan, and Lieutenant and Mrs. Brush may congratulate themselves upon the success which crowned their efforts for the pleasure of their guests.

ALLAN.

(Correspondence Army and Navy Journal.)

FORT LEWIS, COLORADO.

JAN. 4, 1885.

MAIL has just arrived, after being blocked by snow for one week on Correjo's Range. The road is now open, and we dare to hope to receive one more mail at least before it closes again.

About three and one-half feet of snow has fallen this winter, and now lies nearly that depth on the level. A few nights ago, at about 8:30 o'clock, the call was sounded by a host of trumpeters, making things howl, as it were. The call certainly had a sound that makes the hearers start around, wake up, grab buckets, with bottoms out, or anything that leaks, and rush out, generally in the opposite direction from the fire, if there is one. In this case there was no fire; the weight of snow on Troop B (6th Cavalry) stables had broken in the roof, slightly injuring one or two horses and ruining the building. Considerable nerve and pluck was shown by many in entering the wreck to rescue the poor animals. Shovels were brought forth, and the snow flew for a time from the roofs of the adjacent buildings to save them from a similar fate; the nearest one, the grain house, was left untouched; everybody thinking its low standing and very steep roof would certainly save it; but about three days after, in the afternoon, down it came, on about 400,000 lbs. of grain. No damage was done, however, to the grain, and the greater portion of it was removed to another storehouse the day succeeding the crash. The remainder was safely housed in that part of the storehouse that remained secure.

Shoveling snow, handling coal and wood and keeping warm are the principal occupations at present, yet you must not imagine for a moment that it is dull here. Christmas Eve was spent by many at the post hall, where a tree had been prepared by the officers and ladies of the post and decorated and loaded down with gifts, for the benefit of the children of the post, and not one was forgotten. Hope are given weekly at the post hall, which has been fitted up in grand style, plastered, floored, ceiled, and is now warm and comfortable, and is, I may say, one of the best and largest post halls in the Army.

Last evening an excellent performance was given to a crowded house, of a minstrel variety type, of enlisted men. For a wonder, an omission was made (possibly inadvertently) of all the ancient, dog ear'd jokes, an oversight which we hope will continue.

Some of the officers and ladies have in preparation a popular drama, which will soon be presented at the post theatre. Several buildings that were erected during the past season are being completed inside. Shop work is as brisk as it was during the summer, and the only things we actually miss is target practice and Indian scares, both snowed in, so "There is rest for the w—inter."

Colonel Swaine commands the post and also the District of Mexico. The garrison consists at present of headquarters, band and six companies of the 22nd Infantry, two troops of the 6th Cavalry and battalion of Indian scouts, (4).

Recent inspection shows the troops to be in excellent trim, especially the cavalry, who are extremely well mounted, that is, the animals are—two men to a horse. We, of the two two's, take great pride in our splendid band, which is renowned throughout the Army for its excellence.

Quartermaster Webster, who has been quite ill for several days past, is recovering.

Lieut. Campbell arrived from Durango to-day with about twenty, more or less, sacks of delayed and snow-bound mail, for which we were very thankful.

Master Harris Hall, son of Col. R. H. Hall, has been enjoying the holidays with his parents at the post; he returns to school in a few days.

Mrs. P. Remond, lately arrived from the East, is an excellent acquisition to society at the post.

The Star Social Club gave one of its excellent hops at the hall on New Year's Eve.

Hospital Steward Leslie took his departure for the East via Fort Wingate yesterday. He goes on leave, and is accompanied by 1st Sergeant C. E. Gordon, 22nd Infantry.

BUZZ.

(Correspondence of the Army and Navy Journal.)

FORT CUSTER, M. T.

January 9, 1885.

A MILD autumn has been followed by very severe winter weather, the thermometer at one time falling as low as 47° degrees below zero.

December 10, 1884, the officers and ladies gave an excellent representation of "Caste." A matinee was held on the following afternoon, when the same play was given. Mrs. General Grover, as the Marquise de St. Maix, acted with dignity and grace. Major Hawtree, found-in Lieutenant Tate a good substitute. Lieutenant Borden, an old Eccles, brought the "house down." Sam Gerridge, the lover of Polly, and a representative of one of the working classes, found his counterpart in Lieutenant Aleshire, who was a perfect success with his plumbing, glazing and gas fitting. Polly, his sweetheart, was represented by Miss Elworthy. Her quaint speech and lively acting provoked bursts of laughter. Lieutenant Mills and lady took the parts of Captain George D'Alcy and Beth. Their acting was much admired.

We had a real Christmas tree this year. The tree was produced through the kindness of General Grover and placed on the stage behind the curtain. It was very prettily trimmed, and each child was presented with a basket of candy and an orange at the close of the exercise. The exercise consisted of music recitations and Bible readings. At the close, while the Chaplain was making some appropriate remarks, the tree was lit up, and at a given signal the curtain was raised. The gifts were then distributed and the audience dispersed, all feeling happy and satisfied.

The companies had their usual grand dinner on Christmas Day. One of the most noticeable points of this holiday season was the extreme sobriety of the men.

The Lodge of Good Templars are initiating five or six at each meeting. A new temperance meeting was started last Sunday. The church services continue to draw out the men. Chaplain Macomber preached an excellent sermon last Sunday evening to a large congregation, who evidently appreciated his discourse.

LOCAL.

SCENE.—Officer inspecting ranks, sergeant major following. Officer: "Private Atkins hasn't shaved this morning, sergeant major." Sergeant major: "He is going to let his beard grow, sir." Officer: "I can't have men coming on parade like this. Any man wanting to grow a beard must do it in his own time and not on parade."

THE NAVY.

NAVAL VESSELS IN COMMISSION.

WHEN AND WHERE LAST HEARD FROM.

North Atlantic Station—Acting Rear-Admiral J. E. Jouett.

ALLIANCE, 3d rate, 6 guns, Comdr. Lewis Clark.

Arrived at St. John's, Antigua, Dec. 23d, 1884.

GALENA, 3d rate, 8 guns, Comdr. Theo. F. Kane.

Arrived at New Orleans, Dec. 16, 1884. Will visit

Aspinwall and some of the West India Ports.

SWATARA, 3d rate, 8 guns, Comdr. Gilbert C.

Sailed from New York, Dec. 16, 1884, for a

cruise in the Gulf and West Indies. Would so

regulate her movements as to arrive at New Orleans

by the 15th of February.

TENNESSEE, 1st rate, 22 guns (f. s. n. a. s.), Capt.

Oscar F. Stanton. Arrived, Jan. 10, at Hampton Roads, Va. Will get away about Saturday, for Key

West, Havana, and New Orleans.

YANTIC, 3d rate, 4 guns, Comdr. Frank Wildes.

At St. Thomas Dec. 22. Would remain until the

latter part of the week, then sail for Puerto Plata

and Aspinwall, expecting to reach the latter port

about Jan. 1.

South Atlantic Station.

NIPSIC, 3d rate, 6 guns, Comdr. William S.

Dana. Address mail, to care of U. S. Consul, Montevideo, Uruguay. At Montevideo, Uruguay, Dec. 4,

1884. On Nov. 28, 1884, dressed ship, with Spanish

flag at the main, in honor of the birthday of the

King of Spain; and on Dec. 2, with Brazilian flag at

the main, in honor of the birthday of the Emperor

of Brazil. Health of officers and crew excellent.

European Station—Rear-Adm'l. Earl English.

Mails should be addressed to care B. F. Stevens, 4

Trafalgar Square, London, England, unless otherwise

noted.

LANCASTER, 2d rate, 10 guns (f. s. e. s.), (Capt.

Edward E. Potter. At Villefranche, Dec. 11, 1884.

Ordered to make a cruise South as far as the Congo

River.

KEARSARGE, 3d rate, 7 guns, Comdr. William R.

Bridgeman. Arrived at Portogrande, St. Vincent,

Cape Verde Islands, about Nov. 8, 1884, filled with

coal and left next day for Puerto Praya, where she

expected to remain four days, and then proceed to

Monrovia, Liberia; and then down the west coast of

Africa.

QUINNEBAUG, 3d rate, 8 guns, Comdr. Nicoll

Ludlow. Arrived at Alexandria, Nov. 22, 1884, where

she would remain until the latter part of January,

and then proceed to Villefranche to rejoin the

flagship.

Pacific Station—Acting Rear-Adm'l. J. H.

Upshur.

The Post-office address of the vessels of the Pacific

Station is care of U. S. Consul at Panama, unless otherwise

noted.

Letters directed to Callao are delayed in the Post-office.

HARTFORD, 2d rate, 16 guns (f. s. p. s.), Captain

George H. Perkins, commanding. At Valparaiso, Chile, Jan. 3, 1885. Will leave the coast of Chile about

March 1, for a visit to the Sandwich Islands, stopping at the Society Islands en route.

IROQUOIS, 3d rate, 7 guns, Comdr. Stirling.

Left Callao, July 22, on a cruise as far as Australia.

Expects to arrive at Valparaiso about Feb. 14, 1885.

Was at Sydney, N. S. W., Nov. 18, 1884, and to sail on

the 20th for Hobart.

LACKAWANNA, 2d rate, 9 guns, Capt. Augustus P.

Cooke. Sailed from Panama, U. S. C., Jan. 2, 1885, for Corinto.

MONONGAHELA, 2d rate, 9 guns, Comdr. Henry L.

Johnson. Used as a storeship at Coquimbo, Chile.

PINTA, 4th rate, screw, 2 guns, Lieut. Comdr.

Henry E. Nichols. At Sitka, Alaska. Address, care of

Navy Pay Agent, San Francisco, Cal. Lieutenant

Commander Henry E. Nichols reports from Sitka,

Alaska, Nov. 30, 1884, that that part of the district is

quiet and good order is maintained. Many new

houses are being erected in the Indian village, and

native dances are of frequent occurrence, but there

has been no drunkenness nor disturbance of any

kind. In connection with the U. S. Marshal, acting

as Indian Commissioner, he had assisted, at no ex-

pense, in fitting up one of the small Government

buildings for a hospital for Indians. Passed Ast.

Surg. Willson, of the *Pinta*, had voluntarily assumed

charge of it, and the ship would supply such few

medicines as were needed, the attendants being sup-

plied by the civil authorities. The Indians seemed

much pleased with the idea.

SHENANDOAH, 2d rate, 9 guns, Captain Chas. S.

Norton. Reported by telegraph as having left

Iquique Nov. 19, 1884, for Valparaiso, Chile.

WACHUSSETT, 3d rate, 7 guns, Comdr. Alfred T.

Mahan. At Callao, Peru, Dec. 6, 1884.

Asiatic Station—Acting Rear-Adm'l. John L.

Davis.

Vessel with (+), address, Mail, to care U. S. Consul,

Yokohama, Japan.

ALERT, 3d rate, 4 guns, Comdr. Chas. J. Barclay.

At Canton, China, Dec. 13, 1884.

ENTERPRISE, 3d rate, 6 guns, Comdr. Albert S.

Barker. Arrived at Shanghai, China, Nov. 17, 1884.

Still there Dec. 13, 1884.

ESSEX, 3d rate, 6 guns. Arrived at New York

Navy-yard, Dec. 30, 1884. Her officers were detached

from her Jan. 5, 1885, and she was put out of com-

mission Jan. 15, 1885. Her crew will be fully paid

off as soon as the appropriation bill passes. In the

meantime they will be provided for on the *Vermont*.

JUNIATA, 3d rate, 8 guns, Comdr. Purnell F. Har-

rington. Left Nagasaki, Dec. 4, 1884, for Foo Choo,

via Shanghai, to relieve the *Monocacy*.

MARION, 3d rate, 8 guns, Commander Merrill

Miller commanding. At Portsmouth, N. H. Was

put into commission Jan. 15, 1885, and expects to sail

in about two weeks for the Asiatic Station.

MONOCACY, 3d rate, 6 guns, Comdr. Francis J.

Higginson. At Foo Choo, China, Dec. 5, 1884. When

relieved by the *Junior*, to proceed to Shanghai for

new boilers—probably about Jan. 1.

OSSIPEE, 3d rate, 8 guns, Comdr. John F. McGlensey. At Chomnepo, Corea, Dec. 27, 1884.

PALOS, 4th rate, 6 howitzers, Lieut.-Commander T. Nelson. At New Chwang, China, where she will winter.

TRENTON, 3d rate, 10 guns (f. s. a. s.), Capt. Robt. E. Phythian. At Nagasaki, Japan, Dec. 27, 1884.

Apprentice Training Squadron.

JAMESTOWN, 3d rate, sails, 12 guns, Commander Charles V. Gridley. At Navy-yard, Norfolk, Va.

MINNESOTA, 1st rate, 24 guns, Captain Allen V. Reed. Gunship. Address, Foot of West 27th Street, New York, Station E.

NEW HAMPSHIRE, 1st rate, 16 guns, sails, flagship of training squadron, Captain Arthur R. Yates. Coaster's Island Harbor, Newport, R. I.

PORTSMOUTH, 3d rate, sails, 12 guns, Comdr. Silas W. Terry. At Norfolk, Va., undergoing repairs. Probable completion middle to latter part of Jan.

SARATOGA, 3d rate, 12 guns, Comdr. William H. Whiting. Training ship. At Norfolk, Va., undergoing repairs. Probable completion middle to latter part of January.

On Special Service.

DESPATCH, 4th rate, Lieut. Wm. H. Reeder in command. At Washington, D. C. Lieut. W. H. Emory has been ordered to command on Feb. 14, 1885.

MICHIGAN, 4th rate, 8 guns, Comdr. John J. Read. At Erie, Penn.

POWHATAN, 2d rate, 14 guns, Captain Lester A. Beardslee. Left Norfolk, Va., Jan. 10, 1885, for a cruise in the West Indies.

RANGER, 3d rate, 4 guns, Comdr. Chas. E. Clark. Address, care of Navy Pay Office, San Francisco, Cal. Surveying duty on Mexican and Central American Coasts. Was at Corinto, Nicaragua, November 24, 1884.

ST. MARY'S, sails, 8 guns, Comdr. Edwin M. Shepard. N. Y. School ship. At New York, foot of 23d Street and East River.

Receiving Ships, Iron-Clads, Etc.

FRANKLIN, 1st rate, 26 guns, Capt. Henry Wilson. Receiving ship. At Norfolk, Va.

INDEPENDENCE, 3d rate, sails, 6 guns, Commander Frederick Rodgers. Receiving ship. At Mare Is land, Cal.

SPEEDWELL, 4th rate, Lieut. C. M. McCarteney. At Norfolk, Va.

ST. LOUIS, 3d rate, sails, Capt. Wm. E. Fitzhugh. Receiving ship, League Island, Pa.

WABASH, 1st rate, 26 guns, Captain Francis M. Bunoe. Receiving ship, Boston, Mass.

VERMONT, 2d rate, 7 guns, Captain Robert Boyd. Receiving ship. At New York.

WYANDOTTE, 4th rate, 2 guns, Commander Richd. P. Leary. Receiving ship at the Navy-yard, Washington, D. C.

MAYFLOWER, Ensign George P. Blow. At Norfolk, Va.

PHLOX, Naval Academy Tug. Mate B. G. Perry in command. At Annapolis, Md.

The iron-clads *Ajax*, *Catskill*, *Lehigh*, *Mahopac*, *Manhattan* are laid up at City Point, Va., in command of Comdr. D. W. Mullan.

Naval Vessels Repairing.

The following vessels, which have been put out of commission, are being repaired at the several yards mentioned, and are expected to be completed at the dates given:

Adams

of Columbus, and the ladies of their own families, at the Executive Mansion, on Tuesday, the 13th instant, from 9 to 11 o'clock P. M.; and also on the 20th and 27th instant during the same hours. Officers are requested to appear in full-dress uniform.

ALL THE NAVY NOMINATIONS sent to the Senate this session have been confirmed.

ORDERS were issued on Jan. 15, 1885, to the commanding officers of all the squadrons to send home the cadets of the senior class (entitled to examination), so that they will reach Annapolis by the 1st of May.

The U. S. S. *Wyoming* arrived at Annapolis, Md., Jan. 10, 1885, from Norfolk, the steamer *Phlox*, which carried the *Wyoming's* crew to Norfolk, accompanying her. The *Wyoming* recently received new boilers, and will be used for naval cadet practice drills at the Academy.

The following officers attached to the Torpedo Station at Newport, believing that the legislation regarding promotion in the naval Service recommended by the Secretary of the Navy in his last report would greatly increase the efficiency of the Service, have signed a petition urging its enactment: Commodore W. T. Sampson, Lieut. Comdr. Theo. F. Jewell, J. S. Newell, and W. Maynard and Lieuts. Aaron Ward, E. W. Bridge and Geo. W. Totten. A similar petition has been presented in the Senate, signed by Lieut.-Comdr. W. H. Bowman and W. W. Rhoades, Lieutenants Arthur P. Nazro, G. H. Peters, W. Kilburn, E. K. Moore, G. P. Colvocores, J. V. Nicholson and C. W. Ruschenberger, Ensigns W. B. Fletcher, A. W. Wood, A. C. Almy, B. C. Dent and H. B. Wilson, Surgeon John C. Wise, P. A. Surgeons J. C. Byrnes and R. C. Persons.

In accordance with the provisions of the 5th section of the act of Congress making appropriations to supply deficiencies, approved March 3, 1883, sealed proposals will be received at the Navy Department until noon on Saturday, Feb. 14, 1885, at which time and place they will be opened, for the purchase for cash of certain vessels which have been stricken from the Navy Register, under authority of an act of Congress approved Aug. 5, 1882, and which it is deemed for the best interests of the United States to sell. The vessels offered, their appraised value and their locality, are the Niagara, at Boston, Mass., \$17,900; Florida, at New London, Ct., \$41,100; Colorado, at New York, \$25,000, and Cyane, at Mare Island, Cal., \$6,000. Proposals must be submitted in a sealed envelope, addressed to the Secretary of the Navy, Washington, D. C., and endorsed "proposals for the purchase of vessels," so as to distinguish them from other communications. No offer for more than one vessel should be included within one proposal. On application to the Department, a printed list will be furnished, giving general information concerning the vessels; also forms of bids and bonds which must be used by bidders. The vessels can be examined at any time by applying to the Commandants of the Navy-yards.

NAVY GAZETTE.

Ordered.

JAN. 9.—Lieutenant Commander Geo. A. Converse to duty at the Torpedo Station.

Lieutenant Wm. H. Emory, to command the Despatch, on Feb. 14.

Passed Assistant Surgeon Henry C. Eckstein, to continue on duty on board the receiving ship St. Louis until Jan. 6, 1886.

Assistant Engineer Frank M. Bennett, to duty at the Manual Training School, Chicago, Ill.

Passed Assistant Surgeon Howard E. Ames, to special temporary duty at Baltimore, Md.

JAN. 10.—Lieutenant Henry B. Mansfield, to the Marion, on Jan. 15.

Pay Directors James Fulton, Caspar Schenck, and Edward May, to duty in connection with the examination and inspection of the books and accounts of the disbursing officers of the Navy.

Passed Assistant Paymaster O. C. Tiffany, to the training ship Jamestown, on Jan. 31.

Assistant Paymaster E. B. Rogers, in charge of the accounts at the Naval Hospital, Yokohama, per steamer of Jan. 22.

Gunner George P. Cushman, to the receiving ship Franklin.

JAN. 12.—Assistant Naval Constructor George F. Mallett, to examination as to his physical qualifications for promotion.

JAN. 13.—Lieutenant Chas. F. Emmerick, to duty in the Hydrographic Office, Jan. 20.

Chief Engineer John Lowe, to experimental duty at the Navy-yard, Washington.

Passed Assistant Engineer Robert R. Leitch, to duty on the Coast Survey.

JAN. 14.—Lieutenant (junior grade) Downs L. Wilson, to examination for promotion.

JAN. 15.—Lieutenant Francis H. Delano, to Navy-yard, Portsmouth, N. H.

JAN. 16.—Commodore S. R. Franklin and Lieut. (junior grade) V. L. Cottman, to examination for promotion.

Detached.

JAN. 9.—Commander H. B. Seely has reported his return home, having been detached from the command of the Nipsic, South Atlantic Station, on Dec. 4 last, and has been placed on waiting orders.

Lieutenant Wm. H. Reeder, from the command of the Despatch, on Feb. 14, and ordered to duty in the Equipment Department, Navy-yard, Washington.

Passed Assistant Surgeon Wm. R. Du Bose, from the Wachusett, and placed on waiting orders.

JAN. 10.—Assistant Paymaster James H. Chapman, from the Jamestown, on Jan. 31, ordered to settle accounts, then wait orders.

Assistant Paymaster John A. Mudd, from the Naval Hospital, Yokohama, Japan, on the reporting of his relief, and ordered to return home and report arrival.

JAN. 13.—Lieutenant Wm. C. Strong, from the training ship Minnesota, and ordered to the Marion. Surgeon John W. Ross, from the Lackawanna, ordered to return home and report at the Naval Hospital, Brooklyn, N. Y., for treatment.

Assistant Engineer William N. Little, from duty on the Coast Survey steamer Gedney, and ordered to report for duty as Professor of Mechanical Engineering in the Worcester Free School at Worcester, Mass.

JAN. 15.—Chief Engineer F. G. McKean and Passed Assistant Engineer Wm. A. Mintzer, from duty connected with the machinery of the Marion, and ordered to duty on board that vessel.

Revoked.

Lieutenant Thos. H. Stevens's order to the Marion, and placed on waiting orders.

Boatswain Edward Bonsall's order to the New Hampshire, and to continue on board the receiving ship St. Louis.

Boatswain James Farrell's order to the St. Louis, and ordered to duty on board the training ship New Hampshire.

The orders of Lieutenant Henry B. Mansfield of Jan. 10 to the Marion, and placed on waiting orders.

Leave.

Granted to Lieutenant M. R. S. MacKenzie for one year from Jan. 9.

Granted to Lieutenant Wm. M. Wood for one year from Jan. 15.

To Delay Reporting.

Paymaster Leonard A. Frailey has been authorized to delay reporting for duty on board the Marion until he has completed the settlement of his accounts of the Navy-yard, Norfolk.

To Delay Departure.

Assistant Paymaster E. B. Rogers has been authorized to delay his departure from San Francisco for duty on the Asiatic Station until the sailing of the steamer of Feb. 2.

Assistant Paymaster J. A. Mudd has been authorized to delay his departure from Japan for two months after being relieved, when he will return home as directed in his orders of Jan. 10.

Nominations to the Senate.

JAN. 13.—Assistant Naval Constructor George F. Mallett, to be a Naval Constructor from date.

Frederick Nash Ogden, a resident of Louisiana, to be an Assistant Surgeon in the Navy, to fill a vacancy in that grade.

CASUALTIES.

Deaths in the Navy of the United States, reported to the Surgeon General, for the week ending Jan. 14, 1885:

Richard M. Bartleman, Chief Engineer, Dec. 24, 1884, at Philadelphia.

MARINE CORPS.

First Lieutenant O. C. Berryman was ordered to the Marine Barracks, Brooklyn, N. Y.

The leave of Major James Forney has been extended twenty-seven days from Jan. 22.

EXECUTIVE MANSION, WASHINGTON, DEC. 31, 1884.

The Executive order of Nov. 5, 1883, is hereby modified as follows:

The ratings of 1st, 2d and 3d class machinist are abolished, and hereafter there will be one rating of machinist in the Navy, with the pay of \$70 a month. New ratings are hereby established as follows: Boiler maker..... Monthly pay \$60 00 Water tenders..... " " 38 00 Oilers..... " " 36 00 Chief musician..... " " 36 00

CHESTER A. ARTHUR.

U. S. NAVY REGULATION CIRCULAR NO. 41.

NAVY DEPARTMENT,
WASHINGTON, JAN. 8, 1885.

Publishes a classification of petty officers and enlisted men in the Navy, and of non-commissioned officers, musicians and privates in the Marine Corps.

THE NAVAL ACADEMY.

THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY SENT TO THE HOUSE THIS WEEK A REPLY TO THE RESOLUTION OF THAT BODY CALLING FOR INFORMATION IN RELATION TO THE CAUSE OF THE DEATH OF CADET STRANG AT THE NAVAL ACADEMY. THE SECRETARY SAYS:

"From information received by the Department from Capt. F. M. Ramsay, the Superintendent of the Naval Academy, it appears that Naval Cadet Frederick Schwatka Strang, of Salem, Oregon, reported at the Naval Academy for admission Sept. 15, 1884, was examined physically Sept. 20, and was admitted and entered Sept. 25. On Sept. 27 he was placed in hospital, and on Oct. 3 died there from peritonitis, following an operation for the reduction of strangulated hernia. There had been doubt about the expediency of his admission on account of a pre-disposition to hernia, but the doubt had been resolved by the medical examiners in favor of his admission. His exercises at the first infantry drills, followed by exertion in getting out of his hammock, brought on the fatal hernia, which was judiciously and skilfully treated, although unsuccessfully. There is no reason to believe that Cadet Strang died in consequence of cruelties practiced upon him by senior cadets, for the conclusive reason that there were no senior cadets at the Academy at the time, and he had seen no cadets except his own classmates. There is no reason to believe he experienced any ill-treatment from any of his own class, or from any other person or persons, or that any such ill-treatment produced the hernia from which he died. On the contrary, the full surrounding circumstances dispel and negative any such idea, and prove that the case of the hernia was that above stated. The details, however, are not suitable for publication, and should not be further explored. The unfortunate and blameless dead cadet should be allowed to rest in peace."

Mr. Cox in addressing the House stigmatized the letter of Secretary Chandler as frivolous. In his reply to the committee Secretary Chandler says:

"A. E. Strang, the deceased cadet's brother, wrote to the Superintendent and asked the particulars concerning the illness and death of his brother, and especially the actual cause of the same. In reply the Superintendent gave a full account of all the circumstances of the cadet's death, showing that there were no grounds for the newspaper impositions

concerning the cause, and he offered to furnish any other information which might be desired."

Mr. Chandler further denies, in his reply, that there have been any diabolical cases of hazing at the Academy, saying that the cadets, as a rule, are orderly and well behaved; that the charge that sin and vice exist in all their forms and hideousness exist at the Academy is an accusation which it seems impossible should have been made without some facts to justify it, and that the Superintendent has been unremitting in his efforts to elevate the character and discipline of the Academy.

The House Committee on Naval Affairs had a long and breezy discussion on Cadet Strang's case on Friday. The point at issue was whether or not the committee should report in favor of Congressional investigation. The vote being taken, it resulted in a tie, five voting for and five against. Another meeting is to be held on the subject.

The investigation into the incident of Christmas week at Washington resulted in the dismissal of Naval Cadet George B. Tennant, Michigan, of the 1st class. His friends are making an effort to secure his reinstatement, and he has gone to Washington to see the Secretary.

STAFF RETIREMENTS IN THE NAVY.

ENGINEER CORPS OF THE NAVY.

1885, Feb. 14—Garvin. Promotes Stamm, Inch, Van Horvenburg.
1885, Sept. 6—Stewart. Promotes Roble, Buehler, Gowin, Sloane.
1885, Dec. 1—Zeller. Promotes Johnson, Snyder, Greenleaf.
1886, Dec. 17—Sewell. Promotes Brooks, Nones, Hall, G. W.; Bailey, F. H.
1888, Dec. 1—Stamm. Promotes Williamson, Ziegler, Scott.
1889, March 27—Macomb. Promotes Moore, De Valin, Borthwick, Cathcart.
1890, Oct. 21—Ziegler. Promotes Lamdin, Ayres, Nicoll.
1890, Nov. 9—Johnson. Promotes Hartleman, Laws, Kirby, Willets.
1890, Dec. 26—Loring. Promotes Baker, Farmer, Gragg.
1891, March 22—Dade. Promotes Kutz, Harris, R. L.; MacConnell, Worthington.
1892, Feb. 15—Fletcher. Promotes Kiersted, Fitch, Stivers.
1892, May 15—Nones. Promotes Allen, Heaton, Little.
1892, June 13—Lamdin. Promotes Dungan, Smith, D. Tower.
1892, Oct. 6—Wood. Promotes Towne, Boggs.
1893, Jan. 16—Baker. Promotes McElwell, Wilson, Entwistle.
1893, Aug. 24—Hibbert. Promotes Thomson, Greene, Cline, Freeman.
1893, Sept. 11—Robie. Promotes Wharton, Potts, Aston.
1893, Nov. 27—Brooks. Promotes Inch, Triley, Harney, Burdoff.
1894, May 24—Moore, J. W. Promotes Buehler, Whitaker, Jones, D.
1894, July 12—Henderson. Promotes Snyder, Rearick, Chapman, King.
1894, Dec. 1—Bartleman. Promotes De Valin, Sensner, Price.
1894, Dec. 25—Kiersted. Promotes Ayres, Able, Magee, E. A.; Eldredge.
1895, March 20—Laws. Promotes Smith, W. S.; Bingham.
1895, April 11—Fitch. Promotes Magee, G. W.; Windsor, Babbitt.
1895, June 13—Wharton. Promotes Farmer, McLean, Roche.
1895, Aug. 5—Williamson. Promotes Harris, R. L.; White, Ross, Kleckner.
1895, Aug. 17—Hall, G. W. Promotes Roelker.

MEDICAL CORPS OF THE NAVY.

1885, June 15—Jones, M. D. (Res.) Promotes Fitzsimmons, Persons.
1887, Jan. 29—Dungan. Promotes Leach, Clark, J. H.; Williams.
1887, Sept. 17—Cones. Promotes Kindleberger, Hochling, Rogers.
1888, July 9—Peck. Promotes Cleborne, Kidder, Streets.
1888, July 18—Shippen. Promotes Spear, Van Reypen, Harvey.
1889, Feb. 29—Suddards. Promotes Burbank, Walton, Simons, M. H.
1889, Nov. 27—Gunnell. Promotes Robinson, Woolverton, Siegfried.
1891, Nov. 21—Turner. Promotes Rhoades, White, Bradford.
1892, Jan. 21—Taylor. Promotes Bradley, M.; Woods, Wagner.
1893, March 3—Hord. Promotes Hudson, Du Bois, Ferrebee.
1893, May 10—Browne. Promotes Bates, Cooke, Derr.
1893, Aug. 20—Bloodgood. Promotes Bogert, Penrose, Stephenson.
1895, May 27—Dean. Promotes Schofield, Hugg, Boyd.
1895, Sept. 28—Githon. Promotes Oberly, Brush, Bertollette.
1896, Feb. 27—Wales. Promotes Beardaley, McMurtrie, Wells, H.
1896, May 29—Gorgas. Promotes Wells, H. M.; Kershner, Harmon.
1896, Sept. 2—Kindleberger. Promotes Clark, J. H.; Tryon, Gaines.
1897, Jan. 20—Wells, H. M. Promotes Hochling, Jones, W. H.; Bixey.
1897, June 6—Penrose. Promotes Coles, McClurg.
1898, Jan. 23—Kidder. Promotes Flint, Hall, J. H.
1898, March 6—Robinson. Promotes Van Reypen, Bright, Hall, C. H. H.
1898, May 7—Bogert. Promotes Walton, Simon, W. J.; Swan.
1898, May 12—Leach. Promotes Wolverton, Winslow, Hendon.
1898, June 18—McMurtrie. Promotes Beaumont, Henberger.
1898, Nov. 3—Brush. Promotes Babin, Green.
1898, Dec. 12—Cooke. Promotes Parker, Dickson.
1898, Dec. 24—Rhodes. Promotes White, Ayres, Heffinger.

THE SIGNAL SERVICE.

SERGT. HOLTMORTH of the Signal Service breatheth out threatenings and slaughter, and has engaged a lawyer preliminary to revenge of some sort.

Of the Greely party who survived, Sergeant Brainard, who was the means of saving the lives of the party, is in Washington working hard at his desk as a clerk in the office of the Chief Signal Officer. Connell, who when he enlisted was troop quartermaster-sergeant, one of the best positions in a cavalry company, finds himself gazetted as a second-class sergeant in the Signal Corps, a position much lower than the one he resigned; he will doubtless endeavor to get out of the Army at the earliest possible moment. Biederbick, who acted as hospital steward of the expedition, is also in Washington, but having received his discharge from the army, is likely to make Boston his future home. Long is soon to be married, and Fredericks is at the Signal Office daily, waiting for something to turn up.

We are in receipt of a recent "Pilot Chart of the North Atlantic Ocean," prepared by Commander J. R. Bartlett, U. S. N. Hydrographer, under the direction of the Bureau of Rochester.

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The Senate Committee on Naval Affairs held a brief meeting on Thursday last. The Navy nominations were all acted on favorably, and a favorable report adopted on the bill No. 2,387 for the relief of the sufferers by the wreck of the *Tallapoosa*.

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ADMIRAL PORTER'S STORY.

We have received the eighth and ninth parts of Admiral PORTER's story of "Allan Dare and Robert le Diable," completing this tale, which is published in an unusually attractive form by D. APPLETON AND CO. It is rightly described on the title page as a "romance" for it is as marvellous in its way as the tales with which Scheherazade beguiled the thousand and one nights of her lord, the Sultan. The Admiral has, evidently, little respect for the modern canons of criticism in imaginative literature, and his work contrasts with those of such subtle analysts of character as HOWELLS and JAMES, much as the tangled wild of an Amazonian forest does with a champaign in the valley of the Housatonic or the Susquehanna.

Nearly the whole collection of villains and archangels, to which the Admiral introduces us, are the children or grandchildren of a retired Cape Cod whaler, Samson Goliah Gale, who carries a harpoon in place of a walking stick, and fairly exudes the artof the sea. One of Samson's sons indulges himself with such license in arson, murder, dishonesty and deceit of all kinds that we are about to instill him as villain-in-chief, when, in the last chapters, another one of the characters in the story unmasks and is awarded that place by acclamation. The other son of Samson withdraws early from the scene, to appear towards the end as a harmless lunatic, whose shipwreck on the Negro coast accounts for his African mania, as well as for his disappearance, which was supposed to have been a final one, to the bottom of the sea. He is not so far gone in lunacy, however, as not to have some sense left, as witness the following:

Ah, sir! that's the country (Africa) to live in if a man wants to be honored; very different from what have heard of the doings in this benighted land, where politicians get upon the floor of Congress and denounce old officers of the Army and Navy as bummers, inhumanly reducing their families to beggary because those officers have grown too old and infirm for further service, while the real bummers are fattening at the public crib. In that blessed land of Africa there are no newspapers, and if a man were to set up as an editor they would skin him alive and roast him before a slow fire. It is death to malign an old African that has fought for his country.

The people over there have the best government on the face of the earth; they have no aldermen and no politicians, no lawyers, no preachers, no courts of justice, no strong-minded women. Everything runs like clockwork. There are no extortions, no vile hotels where you are cheated out of your money.

Of the two sons of the lunatic one is a detective, who combines in himself the talents of a VIDOCQ and LE COQUE, the graces of an Apollo, and the strength of a Hercules, and who assumes as many characters as Proteus. His brother, suspected of the most serious crimes, proves in the end to have been guilty of nothing worse than smuggling and general dishonesty. The pair are twins, prototypes of each other in physical appearance, and possessed of such agility and strength as to easily master a half dozen men of the ordinary sort. Abducted in their youth, their paths diverge widely, and when they meet again it is to plot and counterplot, each against the other; the one as a police detective, the other as a hunted criminal, on whose hot trail his brother constantly follows. Their mother, sister and aunt are paragons of loveliness; their cousin, although she dies before thirty in the odor of sanctity, as

the lady superior of a New York convent, has so improved her time in her youth that she has been accessory to the murder of a lover and to two attempts at assassination, which she supposed to have been successful; she has clandestinely married one man, who is murdered for her sake, eloped with a second, and finally ends her career in this line as the mistress of the man who murdered one of her husbands, as well as a naval officer who was about to marry her, and who, at her request, attempted the assassination of another husband and her cousin. This man May, alias Conti—most of the Admiral's characters have an alias—proves to be a good, old-fashioned pirate of the walk—the plank sort—whose degenerate successors in our day know nothing of the water, except in its relations to railroad stocks. He is really a most delightfully complete villain, and that he is an ex-British naval officer is certainly no reflection upon our Service, whose representative, the Lieutenant of the *Curlew*, is an altogether proper youth.

With the exception of Louise Lane-Gale, née Morton, alias Conti, alias the Lady Superior of the Convent of the Sacred Cross, the heroines of the story are all such marvels of physical perfection, mental and moral excellence, and feminine grace, that we sigh to think the gallant Admiral could not have been present at the original ordering of things to have set the model for all womankind. The moral of his romance appears to be that "uprightness, love, honor, and faith in God would always win against deceit, and that virtue would always in the end be rewarded." Among the virtuous ones who triumph in the end are the precious pair of Gale brothers, whose whole life has been built upon deception and craft; one of whom has confessedly grown rich by violating the law, and has deliberately assisted at the ruin of his own wife that he might the sooner rid himself of her. We fear that, as a novelist, the Admiral suffers somewhat the same confusion of ideas as the two grocers who consoled themselves as they discussed together the morality of their practices in sanding sugar and putting ashes in pepper, by the reflection that "the Lord don't mind them little things we do in the way of business, so long as the heart's right."

Concluding, we may say that the story, however improbable in its creations of character, is vigorously and graphically written, well sustained in plot, and as exciting in incident as "Monte Cristo" or "The Three Guardsmen." May the Admiral live long to charm us with many such.

This work, whatever judgment may be passed upon it in the cold light of literary criticism, certainly gives singular proof, in an unexpected direction, of the vigorous vitality and exceptional mental energy which have made the Admiral of our Navy such a marked man among his fellows. The natural affinity between arms and literature is finding its most noteworthy expression in this country just now. The General of our Army has established his reputation as an author and a vigorous writer, and the Lieutenant-General is more than suspected of an intention to add literary obligations to those he has already imposed upon us; GRANT is giving proof, as the *Broad Arrow* puts it, "of the way in which journalism is becoming a sort of earthly providence in these days," by writing articles for the *Century* magazine, and this work of Admiral PORTER is only the blossoming out of a literary career characterized by less conspicuous ventures in the same line.

DISHONORABLE DISCHARGE.

The General Court Martial Orders of the several Army Departments for the year 1884 exhibit what seems to us to be a dangerous exercise of the power of "dishonorable discharge," as a punishment for enlisted men. In many cases, no doubt, this action was required, but in others it would appear to have been adopted as a short and easy way of getting rid of an unruly soldier. This, no doubt, promotes the individual comfort of the officer and that of the self-respecting members of his company, but is it for the interest of the Service? The ranks are recruited from all classes, and in spite of the sifting process of enlistment no captain can expect to be supplied with "the salt of the earth," a full complement of men morally as well as physically perfect. Is it not his duty to take his men as he finds them,

and, holding on to them to the last extremity, do all in his power to improve them by discipline and a close study of individual peculiarities?

Some years ago, if we remember aright, GENERAL McDOWELL, while in command on the Pacific coast, established at Alcatraz Island a Company of Discipline, into which he drafted the incorrigibles and subjected them to a course of labor and restraint, which fitted many of them—it was scarcely to be expected to cure all—to return to their commands and render faithful service for the balance of their terms. To establish in each Department such a "Company of Discipline" might tend to lessen the necessity for dishonorable discharge and prevent the commission of offences having this in view. There are no doubt men who take the risk of the confinement which may accompany the sentence of dishonorable discharge to escape service. From the confinement, or a portion of it, they too often manage to escape, owing to the beneficence of the Government or the influence of friends. To temporarily withdraw such men from the comforts and privileges of the garrison and isolate them, with others of their class, under a service of strict, but just and kindly discipline would, it seems to us, have a most beneficial effect and be more economical than the plan of dishonorable discharge. If, after having passed through the "Company of Discipline," they are still incorrigible then let the lash of the law be applied with full force and unremitting severity, but dishonorable discharge should be a last resort.

GENERAL SHERMAN AND DAVIS.

THE controversy between General SHERMAN and JEFFERSON DAVIS assumes large proportions, and has this week occupied many columns of the daily papers, and one entire day of the time of the Senate. Mr. HAWLEY's resolution, asking the PRESIDENT for the paper filed by General SHERMAN, called out Senators MORGAN, of Alabama, HARRIS, of Tennessee, LAMAR, of Mississippi, and VEST, of Missouri, in defence of DAVIS. The specific objections urged to the resolution were that it was meddling in a private controversy, and that, if General SHERMAN's accusations be published, fairness required that DAVIS's reply should receive equal consideration. Mr. MORGAN said: "While it may be true that he is under the reprobation of a very large portion of the people of the United States because of his connection with the rebellion, it is none the less true that he is yet beloved by millions in the United States. While it may be that he was actively concerned against the Government of the United States in open warfare, and as the president of the confederacy during the time of the rebellion and the terrible struggles that were made between that and the Government of the United States, it is not true that he was any more particularly the enemy of the United States than I was or than many Senators on this floor to-day were."

MR. LAMAR said: "The discussion which is brought out here can throw no light whatever on that naked, bald issue of fact, whether or not General SHERMAN saw a letter written by JEFFERSON DAVIS to a Senator now in the United States Senate, saying he would coerce a Southern State if it should secede from the confederacy. I assert that no such letter is in existence, and, in my opinion, no such letter was ever written; and in saying that, Sir, I wish to disclaim here any reflection whatever upon the veracity of General SHERMAN. That is not my purpose. What I do mean to say is that he has been misled and misinformed, and when the proof comes before him that he has made an assertion, even against a political enemy, which he cannot sustain, it would comport better with his high character and high position to acknowledge the inadvertent and unintentional injustice, than to change the issue before the American people and raise a question as to the character of the secession of the Southern States."

The last question, as to the character of the Secession of the Southern States, the defenders of Mr. DAVIS showed no disposition to discuss, though it forms the burden of General SHERMAN's letter which has found its way into print. In it General SHERMAN repeats his statement that JEFFERSON DAVIS was attempting to grasp absolute power, and that

he was, in fact, a conspirator to secure that end. General SHERMAN recites the substance of his correspondence with President LINCOLN during the Atlanta campaign and at its close, conveying to the authorities at Washington a full statement of the ascertained controversies of Governor BROWN, of Georgia, with the Richmond government, and the charges that BROWN made against DAVIS and his Cabinet. These, together with the known position of Vice-President ALEXANDER H. STEPHENS, were also given. General SHERMAN then proceeds to argue at length upon the evidence in those documents already published by him. He contends that they show a decided tendency toward a dictatorship, and that they fully justify the expressions heretofore used by him in regard to DAVIS in reference to whom he says: "If I am prejudiced against him personally it arises from the fact that he, more than any living man, has brought reproach on the Military Academy and Regular Army, with which he was associated from 1824 to 1835, by impairing the fair fame they had earned for fidelity to their oaths, to recover which we have had to battle with an adverse public opinion ever since. * * * * No nation can afford to put fidelity and treachery on a par and hope to survive, and that this Government means to survive, and perpetuate its invaluable advantages I have abundant faith."

General SHERMAN also says:

"I have said a thousand times, and now say again, there was a conspiracy throughout the Southern States in the winter of 1860-1; that I myself was approached by a member of the Knights of the Golden Circle; that the head of that conspiracy was in Washington; that its object was to destroy our Government and raise on its ruins a plutocracy at the South. I cannot state the proposition better than JOHN G. NICOLAY has already done in his admirable work, 'The Outbreak of Rebellion,' the first of the Scribner series, and that the cause permeated the Navy as demonstrated by Admiral AMMEN in his contribution to the same series entitled, 'The Atlantic Coast,' both using the plain words 'conspiracy' and 'conspirators.'

HISTORY OF OUR ARTILLERY.

WE had intended to give more attention than we find ourselves able to do this week to the very interesting Historical Sketch of the Organization, Administration, Matériel and Tactics of the Artillery of the U. S. Army, by WM. E. BIRKHIMER, 1st Lieutenant, 3d Artillery (JAMES J. CHAPMAN, agent, Washington, D. C.) Our artillery, as the author shows, obtained its first impression from Colonel RICHARD GRIDLEY, a half-pay British officer, who had rendered distinguished service as an engineer and artillerist, and who improved in some respects upon the British organization, with which he was familiar. Under the command of KNOX, during the Revolution, the Artillery took and maintained a position second to none. French officers entered our Service, and we purchased some unmounted French guns, but this was the limit of French influence; English ideas of organization and material had taken too deep root to be shaken.

At first, promotions in the Artillery were regimental, and each State appointed and promoted officers as it saw fit. An attempt in 1778 to apply the principle of seniority in promotion raised a storm which required all the authority of WASHINGTON to quell it. January 30, 1787, the Artillery received an organization distinct from the Infantry, which it has since maintained. From the close of the Revolution to 1794 it served as Infantry, with Ordnance and Artillery duties added, and in 1794 was organized with the Engineers into a Corps, which passed away eight years later on, leaving scarcely a trace behind. Out of the ruins of this Corps in 1802 grew a regiment of Artillerists, but the Artillery failed entirely to develop scientific excellence, and its incompetent personnel led to the formation of an Ordnance Department, which Lieut. BIRKHIMER thinks should be reunited to the Artillery, with General BENET as chief of the united organizations. In 1808 a Light Artillery Regiment was organized, with GEORGE PETER, WINFIELD SCOTT, and ABRAHAM EUSTIS among the captains.

The display of Captain PETER'S Light Artillery

Company was one of the features of the Fourth of July parade in Washington in 1808. Though well officered, the Artillery suffered in the War of 1812 from the want of a single head. The promotion of MACON, SCOTT, and BURBECK left the three Artillery Regiments in 1814 without a Colonel, and so a logical Congress abolished the grade altogether, thus punishing the Artillery for having so many able men in it.

In 1815 two Corps of Artillery, and an Artillery regiment were formed, and out of the reorganization of March 2, 1821, grew the present 1st 2d, 3d and 4th regiments of Artillery, consolidated out of the Light Artillery and the two Corps of Artillery of the Northern and Southern Military Divisions. For eleven years the 1st Artillery remained without a Colonel, the ranking Lieutenant Colonel, LINDSAY, being promoted in 1832, as a compromise between the President and Congress who had become entangled in a dispute as to the President's prerogative. Slight changes of organization resulted from the war with Mexico, dragoon pay and allowances for one thing, being secured to the Light Artillery by their brilliant action on the battlefields of the Rio Grande valley, when they astonished the Army and the country by their manoeuvres, efficiency and power. The various attempts at further change had, down to the outbreak of the War in 1861, resulted in nothing.

Such, in brief, is an outline of the history of the Artillery into which Lieut. BIRKHIMER has woven much interesting material concerning the history of the Army as a whole. What we refer to here is included in the first two of the thirteen chapters and appendix into which this volume of 406 octavo pages is divided. The subjects of organization, administration, material and tactics occupy the remaining chapters. Lieut. BIRKHIMER'S work gives proof of much conscientious study and research and he has rendered excellent service, not only to his own corps but to the Army by the preparation of this valuable volume.

PAY OF ENSIGNS.

THE House Committee on Naval Affairs has made the following report on Mr. THOMAS'S bill, 7752, to equalize the pay of graduates of the Naval Academy by allowing ensigns, when at sea, \$1,700; when on shore duty, \$1,400, and when on leave or waiting orders, \$1,000. A strong effort is to be made to have it adopted as an amendment to the regular Naval Appropriation bill when that measure is brought before the House. This is probably the only way its passage could be secured this year.

This bill merely provides for giving the graduates from the Naval Academy the same pay on their entry into the service.

These graduates are assigned either to the line, the Engineers Corps, or the Marine Corps, having the same relative rank in each, that of ensign.

They should have the same pay, for the following reasons: 1. They have equal relative rank, which implies equal responsibility and importance of duty.

2. They enter the Naval Academy at the same time, have the same course of instruction, and graduate under the same conditions.

3. They have the same expenses for mess, uniforms, etc.

4. Their choice of corps should be guided by no other consideration than that of their aptitude and fitness for that corps.

Up to 1870 the pay of ensigns and assistant engineers was the same, i.e., that now proposed by this bill. At that time the ensigns' pay was reduced, on account of their youth and short time of service in the ensigns' grade, the pay of assistant engineers being untouched, on account of their greater age and length of service in that grade. Since 1870, however, there has been a constant increase in the length of service of ensigns, and the reasons which then prevented a decrease in the pay of assistant engineers now have a much greater force as an argument for an increase of ensigns' pay.

The following table will show that where, in 1870, the length of service prior to promotion to the grade of junior lieutenant was only six years, it is now fourteen years, and till on the increase. Few ensigns can now be promoted before they are thirty years of age.

Name and present rank.	Date of entering the service.	Date of commission as junior lieutenant.	Service prior to promotion to grade of junior lieut.
Goodrich, lt.-comdr.	Dec., 1861.	Dec., 1866.	5 years.
Converse, lt.-comdr.	Nov., 1861.	March, 1869.	6 yrs., 4 mos.
Maynard, lieut.	Oct., 1862.	March, 1869.	6 yrs., 5 mos.
Tilley, lieut.	Sept., 1863.	March, 1870.	6 yrs., 6 mos.
Cornwell, lieut.	Sept., 1864.	July, 1870.	5 yrs., 10 mos.
Perkins, lieut.	July, 1865.	July, 1871.	6 yrs.
Rittenhouse, lieut.	July, 1866.	Sept., 1873.	7 yrs., 2 mos.
Staunton, lieut.	Sept., 1867.	Feb., 1875.	7 yrs., 5 mos.
Southerland, lieut.	June, 1868.	Nov., 1877.	9 yrs., 5 mos.
Scheutze, jr. lieut.	June, 1869.	Nov., 1878.	9 yrs., 5 mos.
Peters, junior lieut.	June, 1870.	Nov., 1880.	10 yrs., 5 mos.
Hodgson, jr. lieut.	June, 1871.	Nov., 1881.	10 yrs., 5 mos.
Gearing, junior lieut.	June, 1872.	Jan., 1884.	11 yrs., 7 mos.
Fullam, ensign*.	Sept., 1873.	June, 1886.	12 yrs., 9 mos.
Fillmore, ensign*.	Sept., 1874.	Jan., 1888.	13 yrs., 4 mos.
Miner, ensign*.	June, 1875.	March, 1889.	13 yrs., 9 mos.
Alger, ensign*.	Sept., 1876.	June, 1890.	13 yrs., 9 mos.
Hoogewerff, ensign.	Sept., 1877.		
Wood, ensign.	Sept., 1878.		

* Promotion computed.

The justice of this measure is acknowledged by officers of all grades and corps of the Navy, and it has been recom-

mended by the Secretary of the Navy in his last annual report.

The future efficiency of the Navy depends directly upon the character of the younger line officers, and the present policy of retaining them for years in a grade where their pay is much lower than that of any other employees of the Government of equal responsibility is very disheartening and injurious in its results.

A policy which leaves these young officers under such a stinging injustice cannot but fail to stifle all their ambition, to render them indifferent to the advancement of their profession, to drive them to disregard of the consequences of non-attention to duty.

To feel that a distinction is being made where no differences exist; that their claims are disregarded, although supported by the opinions of officers irrespective of grades and corps, will blunt their ideas of justice, and render them incompetent to administer it when they are called upon to do so.

The time when these young men could be called boys, and when their age made money dangerous as an inducement to dissipation, has passed. They are no longer boys; they are men; men who have been sent on expeditions fraught with danger, who are daily appointed to positions of especial trust and responsibility, who are prominent in naval literature, of daring courage in the front rank of volunteers when distinguished service calls for them, and in no case have they belied their trusts, have they been found wanting in the elements that constitute a naval officer.

It is to give to these men an equal right to the consideration their contemporaries receive that we approve this bill and urge its immediate passage.

THE Senate Committee on Military Affairs at its meeting on Monday agreed to report favorably the bill which passed the House in June last to place Colonel HENRY J. HUNT on the retired list of the Army with the rank of Brigadier-General, and Senate bill 790 to retire Colonel GEO. W. GETTY with the rank of Brigadier-General. The bill as originally introduced provided for Colonel HUNT's retirement with the rank of Major-General. An adverse report was adopted on bill S. 2,383, providing that chaplains in the Army who served for one or more years in the Rebellion shall receive the pay of their present rank. The nominations contained in last week's JOURNAL were considered and favorably acted upon. The nomination of Lieutenant SIMPSON is still held up awaiting a response from the War Department to a communication from the committee asking for a copy of that officer's military record. The nomination of Lieutenant PLUMMER was reported upon and confirmed some days ago.

The Providence Journal says: "It is difficult to imagine what even plausible objection can be urged against a very liberal support from the Government to the United States War College. As it seems to us, there should be no delay in appropriating the funds necessary to giving it a prosperous start and munificently (if necessary) supporting it thenceforward. The place selected, our own beautiful Newport, presents every advantage that could be derived from climate or locality, and the officer chosen to inaugurate the enterprise combines every qualification for the task."

We would call the attention of the officers of the Army who have asked for a list of retirements for age, that a list of such retirements to 1892 was published in the JOURNAL of May 12th, 1883. For the benefit of those who did not see that number, or who did not preserve it, we shall publish another list but have been hoping to somewhat extend it. The difficulty is that objection is for some reason made to further publication of future retirements.

THE Temporary Naval Appropriation bill has passed both houses, and is now in the hands of a Conference Committee, which will, in all probability, come to an agreement before the week is ended. The appropriations are made for the balance of the current fiscal year, so that under it all obligations incurred by the Department since Jan. 1st can be paid from them, thus enabling officers and others to obtain their full month's pay without waiting for a deficiency appropriation. The questions to be decided in conference relate entirely to new legislation. The Senate has stricken out all items of that nature, except the clause providing that no repairs to wooden ships shall be made where the estimated cost of such repairs exceed thirty per cent.; this the Senate changes to twenty per cent. The appropriations adopted by both Houses are the same.

The items of special legislation stricken out by the Senate are, first, that all enlisted men and boys in the Navy attached to naval vessels and naval cadets shall be allowed one ration or commutation thereof in money; second, stopping promotion in Marine Corps until number of officers have been reduced to seventy-five, and, third, prohibiting retired officers of Army, Navy and Marine Corps from

holding positions under the Civil Government. The clause allowing travelling expenses to apothecaries, yeomen and civilian employees is also stricken out. The provision allowing the detail of line officers to college duty was stricken out before the bill came to the Senate. With this exception, both Houses passed the bill in the shape it came from the respective committees.

GENERAL FORNEY, Chairman of the sub Committee on the Army Appropriation bill, expects to report that measure to the full committee on Friday or Saturday of this week. So far as can be ascertained very few changes from the bill of last year will be made. The items of appropriation will be about the same, and the few items of special legislation it will contain will not make any very important changes. A proviso has been adopted by the sub-committee giving lieutenants of the line, while performing the duties of acting assistant quartermasters, the additional pay of \$100 per annum, the same as now allowed acting assistant commissaries of subsistence. This is in accordance with the recommendations of the Quartermaster-General. The bill will doubtless come before the House by the first of the coming week.

THE longevity pay case of Medical Director JOHN THORNLAY was argued in the Supreme Court of the United States on Tuesday last. The same question is involved as in the TYLER case. If a favorable opinion is given it will allow officers on the retired list of the Navy, in grades having graduated pay, to count the time passed on the retired list. An officer retired in his first five years will, on the expiration of his first, second, third and fourth periods, have his pay increased to three-quarters of active pay for those periods. The case of EMMA V. BROWN, administratrix to Boatswain JAMES BROWN, was argued in the Supreme Court on the same day by the same counsel, Messrs. JONES AND SIMS. Both cases were appealed from the Court of Claims by the claimant's council. A decision may be looked for on Monday week.

THE Attorney-General has decided, in an opinion given at the request of the Secretary of the Navy, that the claims of the Naval appropriation, Act of August 5, 1882, which provides that "hereafter there shall be no more promotion or increase of pay on the retired list of the Navy, but the rank and pay of such officers on the retired list should be the same that they are when such officers are retired," repealed section 1594 of the Revised Statutes, which authorized the President to transfer an officer retired on furlough pay to the retired pay list.

The argument for the decision is that as section 1594 increased the pay of officers transferred under its provisions, it is inconsistent with the clause above quoted and is therefore repealed.

THE Army now offers to the intelligent and well behaved soldier several excellent inducements, viz.: the chance of a commission after two years' service, and the possibility of appointment to one of the excellent non-commissioned staff positions, viz.: Ordnance Sergeant, Hospital Steward, Commissary Sergeant and Post Q. M. Sergeant, to say nothing of regimental promotions up to Sergeant Major. Would Congress but add to these inducements a proper and just retiring allowance for men of long and faithful service, the rank and file would have but little to complain of and everything to hope for.

A BILL was introduced in the House of Representatives Jan 12, authorizing the Secretary of the Treasury to issue to the Comptroller of the State of New York on the credit of the United States, coupon or registered bonds to the amount of \$8,000,000, redeemable after ten years, and payable at the end of fifty years, and bearing interest at the rate of 3 per cent., provided that before the delivery of said bonds the Legislature of New York shall have given a pledge for the State to commence without delay the enlargement of the aqueducts and one tier of the locks of the Erie and Oswego Canals, to a sufficient capacity to pass vessels of war, 25 feet in width and 100 feet in length, and merchant vessels bearing 600 tons burden, propelled by steam. All war vessels of the United States, all munitions of war, of stores,

or supplies for the use of the general Government shall be allowed to pass through the canal free of charge. The work shall be done under the supervision of the Chief of Engineers of the United States, on whose report, once every three months, the Secretary of the Treasury shall issue the bonds to an amount equal to the cost of the work that shall have been properly done. It is a most important measure but its success is problematic.

THE *Admiralty and Horse Guards Gazette* gives a resume of the contents of the report of the English Committee appointed to conduct the experiments with quick firing shell machine guns, first proposed by our Mr. HOTCHKISS, some ten years ago, his so-called "revolving cannon" being adopted by the French soon afterwards. Two of these guns, those of Messrs. NORDENFELT and HOTCHKISS, have so nearly fulfilled the conditions laid down by the War Office, that the Committee could find little difference between them, and recommend in their report that both should be given a further trial. This indecisive expression of opinion did not please Admiral Sir ASTLEY COOPER KEY, who referred the report back to the Committee, in order to obtain some decisive expression of opinion on the relative merit of the two guns, the question principally at issue appearing to be one of "mountings."

The Committee, while reasserting their opinion that both guns were good, were unanimously of opinion that the Hotchkiss quick-firing shell-gun was the best. Nevertheless, they adhered to their recommendation that both guns should be further tried. Hence, the Admiralty decided early in the year to divide the money appropriated for the purchase of quick-firing machine-guns between the two inventors, and Mr. Hotchkiss, charging the lesser price, is delivering a few guns more than Mr. Nordenfelt, the former supplying seventy-seven guns to the latter's sixty-seven. In view of the possible adoption of the non-recoil system of mounting, the Nordenfelt gun will be thus mounted on board the *Handy*, a system which admits of the gun being far more easily kept on the object to be fired at when the ship is rolling than does the recoil carriage. A machine-gun is as a rule completely thrown away in boats, the slightest motion sending the continuous stream of bullets in every possible direction; the new guns, on the other hand, will be capable of maintaining a most effective fire, each shot being carefully aimed, the time occupied by loading them being practically *nihil*. Sir Astley Cooper Key is said to have decided to be guided in the future purchase of guns for the Navy principally by the report of his own captains, whose ships will be supplied with guns for experimental purposes.

THE accusations brought by General HAZEN against Gen. McKEEVER make one sigh to think that the duello has gone out of fashion in this degenerate country. In the good old days such a dispute would have been settled at Bladensburg. Courts-martial ought not to be called to decide the question as to which of two officers is entitled to have the most uncomplimentary opinion of the other. Life is far too short for that, and we are glad that the War Department has decided to take no action in this case, and has expressed its desire that the matter be allowed to drop.

In transmitting the formal charges against General McKEEVER, General HAZEN wrote the following letter to Colonel M. V. SHERIDAN, Military Secretary to Lieutenant General Sheridan:

SIGNAL OFFICE, WAR DEPARTMENT,
WASHINGTON CITY, Jan. 6, 1885.

MY DEAR COL. SHERIDAN: I received your note of Dec. 29, in which you say you have shown the informal charges against Lieut. Col. McKeever to the Lieutenant General, who expressed his opinion that there is not sufficient in them to warrant his (McKeever's) trial by a general court-martial, and I cheerfully yield to his wishes.

Such publicity has been given to this subject, however, it is but just to Lieut. Col. McKeever that I now make the charges formal, that he may have the opportunity, if it is thought best to refer them to him, to withdraw his objectionable statements, with any reparation or explanation he may see fit to make.

I disclaim anything personal to myself in what he has done, but it seemed a plain and simple duty, alike to men of my command so causelessly wronged, to due regard for discipline, and a proper sense of what should actuate an officer of the Army, that official notice be taken of his actions. Greely and his men had suffered so much they ought to have been spared this cruel and wanton humiliation from a quarter where they had a right to expect kindness.

To briefly sketch the case, in the first few days of September, during my absence, and about the time an effort was made for the promotion of Sergeant Brainerd, there appeared in the evening papers of this city (the Star and Critic)

a series of interviews, credited to "an officer of high rank," severely and harmfully criticising Lieut. Greely in his management in the Arctic, his capacity and integrity, and even intimating that his records were being mutilated in my office to cover up "unwelcome facts." This was at a time when the public ear was eager and sensitive, and coming from an "officer of high authority," these charges were published and believed by many in every part of the world where the English language is known.

I had no difficulty in finding the full facts, and that the officer of "high rank" who furnished these statements is Lt. Col. McKeever, that he was then acting as Adjutant General of the Army, and that their publication was in a mild form, as compared to the statements he made.

In these protracted interviews, among a great deal else that is erroneous and defamatory, appear the following:

"Greely has been guilty of deception and prevarication, in his endeavor to keep from the public the facts about his party," and "the diaries disclose a mystery about Dr. Pavys's death that Greely should not have allowed to remain unexplained."

"Lieutenant Greely was an utter failure as a military commander, he was guilty of deception and prevarication, he brought away from Lady Franklin Bay tons of coal unnecessarily, when he should have taken food." "He quarreled with his officers and men from the start," his camp was divided into two parties that did not "speak to each other," one headed by Long, and the other by Brahnard; "his official report is not consistent or honest;" "there was no sign of discipline in Greely's camp." "But then, why Brahnard told the story the very first thing. You know he was much stronger than any of the rest. When he came aboard the Bear, surprise was expressed at it, and when it was asked why it was he said, 'Oh, I could eat the d—d stuff and digest it, but the others couldn't.' When some one of the rescuing party remarked the absence of Dr. Pavys's body, and expressed wonder as to what became of it, Brahnard said, 'He's all gone, I finished the last of him just before you arrived.'

These errors of statement, which led to the belief of wilfulness, were libelous and harmful, and were given to newspaper reporters, he knowing them to be such, and were published. Taken in connection with the heartrending circumstances of the case, calling for kindness and sympathy from all men, this conduct is such as is usually known as unofficerlike and ungentlemanly."

I am, Colonel, very respectfully,

W. B. HAZEN, Chief Signal Officer.

LIEUT. COLONEL M. V. SHERIDAN, Washington, D. C.

The Secretary of War having refused to order a court-martial for the trial of Lieutenant GARLINGTON on the charges preferred against him by General HAZEN, Mr. GARLINGTON has brought charges against his accuser, the specifications of which involve the accusations of slander and prevarication. They have not been made public, and probably will not be, as it is the intention of the War Department to put an end to the whole business. They have come to the very sensible conclusion that an investigation cannot remedy the results of the sad expedition of the *Proteus*.

In reference to the protest made by Pay Inspector STEVENSON and other naval officers, who served in the volunteer service, against the present plan of giving their volunteer service in the Navy Register, the Secretary has directed that in the forthcoming Register credit for service in the Regular Navy be carried out in the line after the officer's name, and in a line immediately below the volunteer service shown under the appropriate head. This separates the volunteer service from the regular, at the same time showing the length and character of the duty performed in both services. This change will necessitate a delay in the issue of the Register for at least a fortnight.

RECENT DEATHS.

PROFESSOR HENRY LAWRENCE EUSTIS, Dean of the Scientific School of Harvard University, died at Cambridge, Mass., Jan. 11, 1885. He was born Feb. 1, 1819, at Fort Independence, Mass., and was a son of Gen. Abram Eustis, Colonel of the 1st U. S. Artillery, who died in 1843. Prof. Eustis entered the Military Academy Sept. 1, 1838, was graduated July 1, 1842, and promoted 2d lieutenant of the Corps of Engineers. He served in various positions on the New England coast until August, 1847, when he was assigned to duty at West Point as Principal Assistant Professor of Engineering, remained on duty until Nov. 1, 1849, and resigned Nov. 30, 1849, to accept the position of Professor of Engineering in the Lawrence Scientific School, Harvard University. When the war broke out he was appointed Colonel of the 10th Massachusetts Volunteers, and served with gallantry and efficiency in many engagements, including Williamsburg, Fredericksburg, Gettysburg, the Wilderness, Spottsylvania, Cold Harbor, etc. He was appointed Brigadier-General of Volunteers Sept. 12, 1863, but his health failing he resigned June 27, 1864, and returned to Harvard University. For some time past he had suffered from an affection of the lungs, and recently he went to Florida for relief, but without avail, and he only returned to his home in Cambridge last week to die.

CAPTAIN STEPHEN K. MAHON, U. S. Army, retired, a gallant officer, while in active service, died at Ottumwa, Iowa, on Sunday last, Jan. 11, after a long illness. Capt. Mahon was born in Ireland, and being in Iowa when the war broke out he joined the 36th Iowa Infantry Volunteers, and rose to the rank of 1st lieutenant in 1863, and was mustered out in 1865. On Feb. 23, 1866, he was appointed a 2d lieutenant of

the 11th U. S. Infantry, promoted 1st lieutenant July 28, 1866, transferred to the 16th Infantry in 1869, promoted captain July 8, 1882, and retired for disability in line of duty April 11, 1883. During the war Capt. Mahon was engaged in the defence of Helena, for which he received the brevet of captain, and capture of Little Rock, Ark., at the action of Elkins' Ford, battle of Prairie d'Ana, capture of Camden, and action of Marks' Mills. He was taken prisoner in April, 1864, escaped, but was recaptured and exchanged in February, 1865.

GENERAL WILLIAM STEELE, who died at San Antonio Jan. 12, 1885, of apoplexy, was a native of New York, and entered the Military Academy from that State July 1, 1836, was graduated July 1, 1840, and promoted brevet 2d lieutenant of the 2d U. S. Dragoons. He served with distinction in the Mexican War, receiving the brevet of captain Aug. 20, 1847, for gallantry at Contreras and Churubusco. On the 10th of November, 1851, he was promoted captain. He resigned May 30, 1861, and entered the Confederate Service. After the war he went into business in Texas, and was Adjutant General of that State for a period.

THE HON. SCHUYLER COLFAX, Vice President of the United States during Gen. Grant's first term as President, dropped dead suddenly on Tuesday, Jan. 13, 1885, at Mankato, Minn. He was born in New York on the 23d of March, 1823. His grandfather was Gen. William Colfax, who during the Revolution commanded Gen. Washington's Life Guards. His grandmother was Hester Schuyler, a cousin of Gen. Philip Schuyler, of Revolutionary fame. His father, Schuyler Colfax, was a clerk in a New York bank, but he died four months before the birth of his son.

MRS. MYRA CLARK GAINES, widow of that distinguished officer, Major-Gen. Edmund P. Gaines, U. S. A., and herself a most remarkable woman, died at New Orleans, La., Jan. 9, of pneumonia, aged seventy-eight. The funeral took place Jan. 10, the remains being interred in the old Creole Cemetery on Basin street, in the tomb of Daniel Clark, her alleged father, and whose property she has been trying to regain for the last 40 years.

MR. DYER FORD, the aged father of Mrs. Clendenin, wife of Colonel J. R. Clendenin, U. S. A., died Dec. 30, 1884, at Oneida, Ill. Colonel Clendenin's daughter-in-law, the wife of Dr. Clendenin, of Galesburg, Ill., died in that city Dec. 26. Much sympathy is felt for Colonel and Mrs. Clendenin in their severe domestic affliction.

CHAPLAIN VINCENT PALEN, U. S. A., who died at Camden, N. J., Dec. 13, 1884, served as a hospital chaplain from May 31, 1862, until Sept. 1, 1867, and was appointed Sept. 11, 1867, a post chaplain, U. S. Army. He was retired Dec. 1, 1868, on account of disability incurred in the line of duty.

MRS. LAURA SHREWSBURY, a granddaughter and the oldest surviving relative of Gen. Washington, died this week at Charleston, W. Va., aged 75. Among the relics of Gen. Washington possessed by Mrs. Shrewsbury was a gold snuff box presented him by the City of New York.

CAPTAIN CHARLES W. FOLGER, the only son of Secretary Folger, died of consumption at 6 o'clock A. M., Jan 11, at his residence in Geneva, N. Y., age forty years. He leaves a widow and five children.

THE FORTY-EIGHTH CONGRESS

House bill No. 4407 to repeal section 1218 R. S. in so far as it operates to prohibit promotion to positions of commissioned officers in the Regular Army from a private soldier after two years service, was passed by the House on Tuesday.

BILLS INTRODUCED IN THE SENATE AND HOUSE.
H. R. 7952. Mr. Maginnis.—Granting a pension to Mrs. Julia Hartley, widow of Captain John Hartley, late of the 22nd Infantry.
H. R. 311. Mr. McComas.—That the thanks of Congress are hereby tendered to Commander Winfield Scott Schley, Commander G. W. Coffin and Lieutenant William H. Emory, Jr., of the United States Navy, and the following officers and men under their command, namely: Officers of the flag-ship *Thetis*: Uriel Sebree, lieutenant; E. H. Taunt, lieutenant; S. C. Lemly, lieutenant, junior grade; W. I. Chambers, ensign, serving on board the *Loch Garry*; C. H. Harlow, ensign; G. W. Melville, chief engineer; E. H. Green, passed assistant surgeon.

Officers of the *Bear*: F. H. Crosby, lieutenant; J. C. Colwell, lieutenant, junior grade; N. R. Usher, lieutenant, junior grade; L. K. Reynolds, ensign; John Lowe, chief engineer; H. E. Ames, passed assistant surgeon.

Officers of the *Alert*: C. W. Badger, lieutenant, junior grade; H. J. Hunt, lieutenant, junior grade; C. S. McClain, ensign; A. A. Ackerman, ensign; William H. Naumann, passed assistant engineer; F. S. Nash, passed assistant surgeon.

Men of the flag-ship *Thetis*: Norman Powers, Coffin, Harvey, Walker, Mitre, Manin, Cross, McLeod, Polson, Booth, Francis, Stitt, Von Spreckelson, Fisher, Griffin, Taylor, Johnson, Hickey, Cook, Baggerson, McDonald, Yewell, Maloney, Wasdon, Tom Sing, Nilson and Larson. Men of the *Bear*: Ash, Quevedo, Lloyd, Brock, Keenan, Burke, Carlson, Evans, Fletcher, Roberts, John Johnson (one), John Johnson (two), Jacob Johnson, Jason, Didriske, Krusberg, Campbell, Lindquist, Law, Savo, and Schwarz. Men of the *Alert*: Gifford, Doyle, Shantz, Jones, White, Blokhus, Hansen, Degen, Bloom, Weiszel, An-

derson, Boi, Green, Haas, Wilson, Watts, Bragger, Tordagor, Anderson, Beswetheric, Guyken, Oseen, Lukhewitz, Tristam, Watson, Lara, Wetergreen, Powell, Wachter, Sullivan, Roberts, Kemble and Baxter.]

For their skill and daring displayed in rescuing from death in the Arctic regions Lieutenant Greely and his surviving comrades, of the Lady Franklin Bay Expedition.

(Correspondence of the Army and Navy Journal.)

WEST POINT.

January 15, 1885.

THE half yearly examination of cadets is over and the results have been published in orders to the Cadet Battalion. The Academic Board found one deficient in studies in the 1st or 2d Classes, but in the 3d Class there were seven turned back and five were discharged. In the 4th Class there were twenty-four found deficient, and one allowed to go on with the class.

Arrangements are being made for the 100th night entertainment on February 21st by a committee appointed by the 1st Class, consisting of Cadets Cole, H. S. Ramsey, Wilcox and Brooks, J. C. W. They are making every effort to have it pass off well. There will be music, speeches and recitations, and the *Howitzer* will be under the editorship of Cadet M. O'Brien.

On Saturday evening last Cadet Craighill, of the 1st Class, met with what might have been a very serious accident. While inspecting his division at tattoo, on coming to the stairs to come down, he caught his heel and fell down some ten or twelve steps, cutting his face slightly; he is in hospital, and is doing well.

Lieutenant Francis J. A. Darr, 12th Infantry, arrived at the post on Sunday. The Lieutenant has assigned to duty at this Academy. He is a graduate of the class of '80, of which class there are already three others on duty at the post.

On Saturday last Charles Rose, for over thirty years Drum-major at this post, died, and on Tuesday afternoon was buried in the post cemetery in the grave where two of his children were laid. The funeral was a large one and attended by most of the officers and professors at the post.

Doctor Kimball, last evening, gave a very interesting lecture to the enlisted men and their families at the little church under the hill, on the circulation of the blood. It is intended to continue these lectures weekly, the next, on Wednesday evening next, will be given by one of the professors.

On Saturday evening last the cadets gave a hop, at which there were 40 couples. Those who attended expressed themselves as it being a very pleasant hop. There were quite a number of strangers present.

On Saturday last Cadet Dashiell, while exercising in the gymnasium, met with a slight accident by a fall—he dislocated his left elbow. It was at once reduced by Dr. Smith, and he is now convalescent.

A newspaper despatch says: The second class has the largest membership of that class ever at the Point, having eighty-two members. Not one was found deficient. The sons of United States Senator Butler in the third, and General Williams, of the Adjutant General's Department at Washington, in the fourth class, were among those found wanting. Young Cadman, of Hudson, Congressman Ketcham's appointee, was also floored. Young Chadayne, of Cornwall, Congressman Beach's appointee, passed successfully. The Ohio colored lads are doing finely. Alexander, of the third class, stands nineteen in a class of seventy, and Young, in the fourth, is about midway in a class of seventy-six members.

(Correspondence of the Army and Navy Journal.)

CHRISTMAS IN FORT ELLIOTT, TEXAS.

THIS day of gratitude and rejoicing all over the civilized world commenced with Morning Service in the post chapel, and an excellent lecture delivered by the chaplain, 24th Infantry, the Rev. J. C. Laverty, appropriate for the occasion.

At 1:30 p. m. reveille called the men to the sports of the day. The weather was just cold enough to be pleasant, and the contestants for the different prizes entered into the sport with spirit. The programme commenced with the tug of war; it was hotly contested by a picked eleven from Company E, 20th Infantry, against an equal number from the garrison. Company E men carried off the prize. It was very exciting to witness twenty-two stalwart men tugging away for dear life. All were delighted with the sports, and the defeated showed they were men by acknowledging the defeat with cheerfulness. The greatest good feeling prevailed.

The three-legged, the shaved pig, handcart and sack races were all exciting and full of fun, and the honors were pretty evenly divided among the companies. The greased pole was a failure—many attempted it, but could not make the ripple. With this ended the sports of the day, when all went to their quarters, and after a refreshing supper waited for the opening of the concert.

The different singing clubs united in giving expression of gratitude to the commanding officer, Major Rawn, 24th Infantry, for his kind consideration in fitting up the school so that it may be used as a place of entertainment for the benefit of the enlisted men of the post.

The hall was crowded to overflowing by the officers and men and their families, and foremost among them the commanding officer, Major Rawn, 24th Infantry. The doors were opened at 7:30 and performance commenced at 8 o'clock. Among the features of the evening that called forth general applause, were the songs "Marching through Georgia," "The Three Chaffers," "Moriarity," "Mary's gone with the Coon," "Awake me early in the Morning," and a speech: "The Pilgrim Fathers."

Corporal Walker, in his original song, "Moriarity," won his "48 hours' pass" while Private Colnan, same company and regiment, in his original "Pilgrim Fathers," ought to be confined for his causing such convulsed laughter among both officers and men.

MESRS. Charles Scribner's Sons will shortly publish the narrative of the Greely Relief Expedition, by its commander, Commo. Schley, and Professor J. Russell Soley of the Navy Department, the custodian of the official records. The book is entitled "The Rescue of Greely," and in its introductory portion reviews the sending out of his original expedition, and the two expeditions first sent in search of him—in the *Neptune* in 1882 and the *Proteus* and *Yantic* in 1883. The main narrative is then taken up, and the absorbing story of the relief is told; the voyage of the *Thetis* and *Bear*; the race with the whalers across Melville Bay, and the skilful management by which its dangers were escaped; finally the finding and rescue of the starving men. The volume will be illustrated from the series of admirable photographs made by the expedition—some of them among the finest Arctic scenes ever thus produced.

HAZEN'S CHARGES AGAINST GARLINGTON.

On the 12th of January Adj't.-Gen. Drum forwarded to Gen. W. B. Hazen, Chief Signal Officer, a memorandum prepared by the Secretary of War, to express his views with regard to the charges recently preferred by Gen. Hazen against Lieut. Garlington in connection with the latter's management of the Greely Relief Expedition of 1883. There are, Secretary Lincoln says in his memorandum, two charges against Lieut. Garlington; the first, disobedience of orders, with 5 specifications, and the second, neglect of duty, with 18 specifications, both being laid under the 32d Article of War. The Secretary reviews these charges and specifications at length to show that they do not furnish ground for a Court-martial. His general conclusions are thus stated:

The Secretary of War, in his letter to the Chief Signal Officer, of Oct. 31, 1883, so fully expressed his views on this fatal error of judgment on the part of Lieutenant Garlington, that he has little left to say. Lieutenant Garlington failed to seize an opportunity of distinguishing himself which does not often come to a young officer. It is, no doubt, difficult for those who have not been in the bleak and desolate region which he left, to appreciate the resolution it would have required to determine to remain there during an Arctic winter, without appropriate shelter or supplies, and it is to be remembered that he had just been shipwrecked, and was under the disheartening influences of that disaster, for which no sufficient provision had been made. The *Yantic*, of course, was to go to Littleton Island, and, in a general way to do what might be possible in any emergency; but it was not anticipated that it should furnish the shelter and stores for a relief station, and its own outfit was not made with an expectation of supplying such a station upon the total loss of the *Proteus*. The use of its stores and other available material for that purpose by Commander Wildes, upon the application of Lieutenant Garlington, would have been a makeshift, for the adoption of which those officers would have been entitled to divide in due proportion the entire credit. It is lamentable that Lieutenant Garlington did not wait at Littleton Island and take this course, but to say that for not seizing this one chance, when without instructions for such an emergency, he is to be held criminally responsible, is another matter. The actual catastrophe of Lieutenant Greely's party does not increase Lieutenant Garlington's responsibility if he was not properly chargeable with a knowledge of Lieutenant Greely's lack of resources. If he did not have reasonable ground to believe that Lieutenant Greely's situation would be almost desperate, the fact that it was so must increase his own regret that he did not take the course which, perhaps, would have saved the party, but it did not forbid him to weigh other considerations. Now, the Chief Signal Officer in 1883 did not himself see regard the situation, and he could not expect Lieutenant Garlington to be better informed than himself.

Upon a full consideration of all the facts which could be known to Lieutenant Garlington, the Court of Inquiry before which Lieutenant Garlington was, in effect, on trial, was of the opinion that no further proceedings before a general court-martial was called for, and that opinion was accepted and acquiesced in. That court had before it all the matters out of which grew all of the within charges, which are, in the view of the Secretary of War, of serious consequence when the nature of the service upon which Lieutenant Garlington was engaged is considered; and upon a careful re-examination of all the known history of this expedition, the Secretary of War is of the opinion that the public interests do not require that a court-martial be convened to try Lieutenant Garlington upon the within charges.

The Secretary of War does not regard Lieutenant Garlington's conduct as free from criticism and blame. On the contrary, he thinks that the language of the Court of Inquiry respecting it was as mild as the circumstances of the case would permit; but he is not willing to proceed further in the matter on the basis that Lieutenant Garlington is solely chargeable with the disaster of Lieutenant Greely's party. In the first place, the Secretary of War considers that the instructions to Lieutenant Garlington were defective in not providing for the disaster which actually happened. Upon this point he has never changed the view he expressed in 1883, in his letter to the Chief Signal Officer.

The Secretary of War will always regret, as he did in 1881, that the matter of this original Polar expedition had, before he assumed his duties, passed, by Congressional action, beyond the stage at which he could with propriety officially intervene to endeavor to prevent its preparation. He gave, in 1881, the final orders for the expedition with reluctance, caused by a fear of disaster, and gave them only when longer delay in consideration would have been equivalent to stopping the expedition, which had been authorized by Congress. Such expeditions as that of Lieut. Greely are almost necessarily disastrous, and the interest in their history is usually, if not always, measured by the amount of suffering and distress recorded. The suffering of the last one was intense and prolonged, and its recital has aroused a world wide interest, but it does not follow, in the opinion of the Secretary of War, that the errors of judgment, but, for which the crowning disaster might have been avoided, should be followed by punitive action.

The Secretary of War has received the following letter from Secretary Chandler, in reply to a communication of the former dated Jan. 2, inclosing a letter from Gen. Hazen touching the controversy between the Chief Signal Officer and Commander Wildes:

NAVY DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON, Jan. 12, 1885.

The Hon. Robert T. Lincoln, Secretary of War:

SIR: This Department acknowledges the receipt of your letter of Jan. 2, 1885, inclosing copy of the communication of the Chief Signal Officer to you, dated Dec. 10, 1884, relative to the recent letter of Commander Wildes to this Department, dated Nov. 21, 1884. A copy of the letter of the Chief Signal Officer will be forwarded to Commander Wildes. The final views entertained by this Department concerning the action of Commander Wildes in connection with the Greely Relief Expedition of 1883 have been stated in a letter to that officer dated Dec. 10, a copy of which was inclosed to you in a letter from the Department of the same date. This Department now sees nothing to add to its views previously expressed, except some observations on the Chief Signal Officer's condemnation of Commander Wildes for his failure to return from Upernivik to Lifeboat Cove with Garlington, and there establish the winter quarters for the succor of Greely and his men. There are certainly grounds for doubting whether Lieut. Garlington and Commander Wildes performed the utmost of their duty toward Lieut. Greely and his comrades while omitting to attempt to return in the *Yantic* from Upernivik to Littleton Island to establish the relief station at Lifeboat Cove. It is quite probable that after ascertaining the facilities for obtaining additional supplies at Upernivik, if they should be needed, the commander of the *Yantic* should have again turned northward in the effort to accomplish the great object of the expedition—the saving of human lives then in extreme peril. If it had appeared that Lieut. Garlington had requested Commander Wildes again to visit Littleton Island, and the latter had refused, this Department would have felt bound to inquire whether or not he could justify his refusal. In the absence, however, of any evidence of such a request from the principal leader of the expedition the Department did not feel called upon to consider or decide the question now raised by the Chief Signal Officer. Very respectfully,

WILLIAM E. CHANDLER, Secretary of the Navy.

In another letter Secretary Chandler says:

It is not the desire of this Department to formally judge the conduct of Lieut. Garlington. In justice, however, to the author of the paper well known and erroneously designated as "supplemental instructions" and "enclosure four," I desire to state that he seems to have been the only person who adequately comprehended the true course to be pursued by the *Proteus* and the *Yantic*, the ships of the relief expedition of 1883. He realized that the mission of the *Proteus* was one of serious danger, and that the *Yantic* was provided as an actual and not as a nominal means of succor in case of disaster to the advance vessel and that she was not, as Lieut. Garlington has said, "sent up simply to satisfy public opinion as a good many papers had advocated the sending of a vessel." Imbued with this correct idea, the author of the memorandum sagaciously recommended a plan for the conduct of the expedition on the obvious military principle that the co-operating forces should be kept at all times as near as possible to each other, and that a line of sure and safe retreat upon the reserve should be arranged in case of disaster to the force which would take the advance. Therefore he proposed that the *Yantic* should "join the *Proteus* at St. John's, Newfoundland, and proceed with her to the neighborhood of Littleton Island." "The naval tender will await the return of the *Proteus* in the neighborhood of Littleton Island and on her return steam south in her company as far as consistent with her own safety until she reaches the southern limit of the ice pack, when they may separate. Signals by flags, heliographs, and guns should be preconcerted, and communication by this means should be maintained between the two vessels as long as possible after they are separated by the passage north of the *Proteus*. The *Proteus* to land her stores, except supplies for more northerly depots, at Littleton Island on her way north." The *Yantic* thus at Littleton Island when the *Proteus* makes her northward movement must wait there unless the ice renders her stay dangerous. Nothing could be wiser, more practical, more in accordance with correct principles, than the plan of thus tying the *Yantic* and the *Proteus* together, by exact and stringent orders, until they reached the danger point and established the base of retreat beyond which the naval tender was not to go, but at which she was to remain on post. If this memorandum had been seen by you, or by the acting Secretary of War in your absence, the soundness and the importance of its recommendation would not have failed of recognition. They would have been embodied in the instructions to Lieut. Garlington, and the expedition of 1883, even if the *Proteus* had been crushed, would have established a relief station at Littleton Island, which would have saved all the Greely party. This memorandum was prepared in your absence at my express and direct request to the Acting Chief Signal Officer, but it was not seen by you nor by the Acting Secretary of War. It was not shown to me, although the fact finally appeared before the Court of Inquiry that a copy had been duly left at the Navy Department, and had been seen by an officer on duty in one of the bureaus, after which it disappeared and has never been found. The Chief Signal Officer rejected the memorandum as a basis of any instructions to Lieut. Garlington; yet it was placed as a loose paper in the envelope containing his instructions, notwithstanding which Lieut. Garlington was orally told by the Chief Signal Officer that it was not to be heeded, and it was accordingly disregarded by Garlington, whose expedition was thereby made a failure. The subject of this memorandum has been fully discussed in the report of the Army Court of Inquiry. It is now considered by me for the purpose of placing on record my high opinion of the sagacity of the officer who formulated the plan and my condemnation of the treatment which it received from the Chief Signal Officer and in the Navy Department.

GENERAL GRANT AND MR. VANDERBILT.

A CORRESPONDENCE appears in the New York daily papers of Monday which is alike creditable to all parties, Mr. Wm. H. Vanderbilt and Gen. Grant and Mrs. Grant. In a letter to Mrs. Grant, dated Jan. 10, Mr. Vanderbilt enclosed assignments to her of the mortgages and judgments he held against Gen. Grant's property, a bill of sale of the personal property, and a deed of trust in which the articles of historical interest are enumerated, saying: "I present to you as your separate estate the debt and judgment I hold against Gen. Grant, also the mortgages upon his real estate, and all the household furniture and ornaments, coupled only with the condition that the swords, commissions, medals, gifts from the United States, States, cities and foreign governments, and all articles of historical value and interest, shall at the General's death, or if you desire it sooner, be presented to the Government at Washington, where they will remain as perpetual memorials of his fame and of the history of his time."

In a letter replying for Mrs. Grant the General says: "While she appreciates your great generosity in transferring to her the mortgage given to secure my debt of \$150,000, she cannot accept it in whole. She accepts with pleasure the trust which applies to articles enumerated in your letter to go to the Government of the United States, at my death or sooner, at her option. In this matter you have anticipated the disposition which I had contemplated making of the articles. They will be delivered to the Government as soon as arrangements can be made for their reception." These letters follow and conclude the correspondence:

640 FIFTH AVE., Jan. 11, 1885.

General U. S. Grant:

MY DEAR SIR: On my return home last night I found your letter in answer to mine to Mrs. Grant. I appreciate fully the sentiments which actuate both Mrs. Grant and yourself in declining the part of my proposition relating to the real estate. I greatly regret that she feels it her duty to make this decision, as I earnestly hoped that the spirit in which the offer was made would overcome any scruples in accepting it. But I must insist that I shall not be defeated in a purpose to which I have given so much thought, and which I have so much at heart. I will therefore, as fast as the money is received from the sales of the real estate, deposit it in the Union Trust Company.

With the money thus realized I will at once create with that company a trust, with proper provisions for the income to be paid to Mrs. Grant during her life, and giving the power to her to make such disposition of the principal by her will as she may elect. Very truly yours,

W. H. VANDERBILT.

NEW YORK CITY, Jan. 11, 1885.

DEAR SIR: Your letter of this date is received. Mrs. Grant and I regret that you cannot accept our proposition to retain the property which was mortgaged in good faith to secure a debt of honor. But your generous determination compels us to no longer resist. Yours truly,

W. H. VANDERBILT. U. S. GRANT.

NEW YORK, SUNDAY, Jan. 11, 1885.

MY DEAR MR. VANDERBILT: Upon reading your letter of this afternoon Gen. Grant and myself felt that it would be ungracious to refuse your princely and generous offer. Hence his note to you. But upon reflection I find that I cannot, I will not, accept your munificence in any form. I beg that you will pardon this apparent vacillation, and consider this answer definite and final.

With great regard, and a sense of obligation that will always remain, I am yours very gratefully,

To Mr. WM. H. VANDERBILT. JULIA D. GRANT.

It is stated that the property held by Mr. Vander-

bilt is more than sufficient to meet his claim, and that the surplus will be held in trust for Mrs. Grant. Mr. P. T. Barnum appears upon the scene with the following card: "I wrote General Grant yesterday offering him \$100,000 and other valuable considerations for the privilege of exhibiting his trophies in a style approved by himself and the best elements of society. The General has my letter. I conversed with him to-day at his house on the subject. He says the trophies are beyond his control. I did not propose to exhibit them with my travelling show, but to take them to large cities in America and Europe. I offered a \$500,000 bond for their safe keeping and return."

In the Indiana Assembly a resolution declaring in favor of putting General Grant on the retired list was laid on the table by a strict party vote. The effort to secure the passage of the law placing General Grant upon the retired list of the Army has progressed so far as to pass the Senate. What should be done is to pass a law making all Presidents of the United States when they retire from office Senators for life. If political necessities required, they might be deprived of the right to vote. Their position would be a dignified one, and their experience acquired in the discharge of the duties of the Chief Executive Office would be valuable to the country.

In the Massachusetts House of Representatives on Monday resolutions were presented calling upon the Massachusetts Congressmen to work for the passage of a bill placing General Grant on the retired list of the Army, with the full rank and pay of General; also recommending similar resolutions to other Legislatures. The House refused to suspend the rules and adopt the resolutions at once, and they were referred to the Committee on Federal Relations.

The bill introduced in the Senate on the 13th, by Mr. Edmunds, the effect of which will be to place General Grant on the retired list of the Army, passed the Senate the next day with only nine dissenting votes from the Democrats, six from the North and three from the South, viz.: Beck, Cockrell, Coke, Harris, Pendleton, Saulsbury, Slater, Vance and Walker. It meets the Constitutional objection urged against the Fitz-John Porter bill by avoiding the mention of General Grant's name, simply authorizing the President to appoint to the retired list one person who has occupied the position of General commanding any of the armies of the United States, or General-in-Chief of the United States Army, the words: "With the rank and full pay of such General, or General-in-Chief, as the case may be."

Some of the warmest tributes to General Grant came from the Southern Senators. Senator Maxey said: He could not but recognize that when the supreme hour came to the Southern States when they had to yield up all save their honor, no man had ever acted with more magnanimity and generosity than Ulysses S. Grant did at Appomattox. Not only did Mr. Maxey remember that fact, but the people among whom he lived remembered it, and he did not believe that there was to-day a man in the South who would begrudge a reasonable and fair support for General Grant in his declining years. Mr. Maxey added that he had known General Grant for forty years and believed that his recent troubles arose entirely from General Grant's supreme confidence in his friends.

The voice of Mr. Edmunds, as he expressed the hope that the bill would pass without a dissenting vote, is described as being choked with emotion.

The London *Pall Mall Gazette* says: "Sympathy with General Grant's misfortunes is mixed to-day with admiration for the honorable stoicism with which he is confronting them."

The Boston *Transcript*, as showing the different spirit in which England deals with her heroes, says: Marlborough, who began life as the son of an obscure country gentleman, was, when he died, one of the richest subjects in Europe. His heirs hold to-day the palace and estate of Blenheim, given him out of the national domain. For nearly two hundred years the Churchills have been among the wealthiest of nobles, simply because of the great deeds done by the man of genius who founded the line. English gratitude to Wellington found expression in vast grants of money and the presentation of an estate. The great Duke was a peer of Spain, of Portugal, of Belgium, of Holland, and of France. The Spanish Bourbons marked their sense of gratitude to the man who more than any one else kept a throne open to them by conferring on him a rich estate which made him one of the wealthiest of their grandees. He was a Marshal Honorary in almost all the continental services; and the lad who lamented the denial of his application for a small place in the Customs Service lived to look back on the memory of poverty as a terrible dream, haunting the rich man's slumber. His son, who died a few months ago, left personal property valued at over \$1,000,000, besides the great estates which the nation had bestowed on his sire in England and Spain."

The House Committee on Military Affairs, convened several hours in debate on the Grant retirement bill on Tuesday, Messrs. Slocum and Rosecrans taking the most active part in the discussion, the latter opposing it most bitterly. Mr. Slocum was finally instructed to call up the bill passed by the Senate last year on Friday, if that day can be secured for the consideration of military measures. The purpose of Mr. Rosecrans is stated to be to compel the President to choose between vetoing a bill for General Grant's retirement and taking a position inconsistent with that he assumed in vetoing the Fitz-John Porter bill. The contention is that, as the President has approved of similar bills and only found that he had signed them improperly when it became desirable to refuse in Porter's case it is not unreasonable to try and find out whether the opinion of Attorney General Brewster will hold good to cover all cases.

MILITARY ORDER OF THE LOYAL LEGION.

AT a meeting of the Massachusetts Commandery, held at Boston January 7, Chas. Peter Clark, late Acting Vol. Lieutenant, U. S. N., and Brevet Lieut.-Col. W. H. D. Cochrane, U. S. V., were elected members. Col. T. C. Sullivan, U. S. A., now stationed in Boston, has been transferred to the Commandery from California.

At a meeting of the Wisconsin Commandery, held at Milwaukee, Jan. 7, Lieuts. F. B. Morgan and C. H. Benton, U. S. V., were balloted for membership. A lunch followed the business meeting, and then an interesting military paper was read by Companion Maj. Charles H. Ross.

PROMOTION IN THE NAVY.

U. S. S. MINNESOTA, Foot W. 27th St., N. Y.,
December 21, 1884.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal:

In the issue of the JOURNAL of Dec. 27, under the heading "Promotion in the Navy," it is said: "It is no disparagement to any man who has been exposed to the vicissitudes of more than thirty years of service afloat and ashore, that he is not fit physically to perform the duty of his station, as he was ten years ago." Allow me to ask if by the above is meant that experience counts for naught, for I doubt that if any look upon a man of twenty years' experience as being as capable of doing what one of thirty years can. Does the shipowner entrust the care of his vessel and its cargo to the young man of a few years' service, or to the old sea captain who has years of experience in his calling? I do not for one moment say that the young man is not capable of performing his duty, but it is generally to the older men that we look for advice, as we take it for granted that time has shown them many things in their calling which only time can show.

Any one who looks at the McAdoo bill will certainly notice with what overwhelming force the merits are counterbalanced by the defects.

It certainly is a disparagement to an officer who, having reached the grade of captain or commander after thirty or more years of service, afloat and ashore, at home or abroad, to be placed on the retired list, and virtually considered dead so far as future service is concerned; is he not looked down upon instead of being looked up to by the younger officers? He has to step down and out and thus make room for a younger man, and 'tis here that the real parsimony of the bill shows itself, for does it not show the efforts to secure at reduced salaries places now held by older officers?

The cry that has always been raised against the Navy has been that it was top-heavy, and yet the McAdoo bill instead of reducing this top-heaviness tends to increase it, by increasing the grade of Vice Admiral from one, as at present, to six. If this looks to others like a change for the better, it certainly does not to me.

Should an officer after faithfully serving his country, after giving her the benefit of his experience and learning, be shamed, and the billets that should be his reward, given to a younger man? Is an officer to receive no reward for his services except retirement and that when he is in the very prime of life? If such is to be the case, then what have the younger officers to look forward to as their reward for the study and attention to their duty? Certainly not to their chances of ever becoming a Rear-Admiral, but simply to reach the grade of Captain, or, in some cases, only that of Commander, and then to be placed on the retired list. Does this seem much of an incentive for an officer to remain in the service of a country that will treat him thus, and the McAdoo bill is destined to do this if it passes.

At the beginning of the late war promotion was slower than at present, and to see gray-haired men as Master's Mates, and even in lower grades, was a common thing. Can you show me how promotion is to be benefited by this bill? Will it not place some men on the list of Rear Admirals, certain Captains who are comparatively young, and thus keep some on the Captain's list a longer time, making them as old, if not older, when promoted, than they would be, should promotion continue as at present? Does this look much like benefiting or accelerating promotion?

You say, "It is an error for officers to feel that the interest of the Service means necessarily their own interest." If this is the case, then it is an error for the Service to think an officer's own interest must not be considered, for if they look not to their own then who will look for them? Will you show me how the present bill is not for the interest of a few, rather than for the service in general?

Are the men who speak in favor of promotion by selection, as embodied in this bill, the men who really look for their own interests or for the welfare of the Service. Is promotion by selection demanded for the public or Service good? For neither. In no branch of the Government Service, where promotion by selection is used, can it be shown that success has attended its use. Dissatisfaction and dissension reigns supreme, and injustice has been done to those who really have the right to the reward of promotion for services rendered their country. Look at the promotions by selection in the Army and show, if you can, a single case where injustice has not been done some good and true soldier by putting above him men who have seen far less real, arduous and telling service than he has. And such will be the case in the Navy should this bill become a law.

The few in the Navy who favor this mode of promotion are not those who look to their merits to gain their end, but to their political influence to safely "take them over the heads of older and more experienced men, men who have done their duty afloat and not shirked it, and had fat positions in Washington or near their homes. And the duty of every officer at the present time is to use his political influence (which in this case is strictly honorable) to kill this bill, and by doing so he will not only gain the good will of his brother officers but of the

community at large, for he will show no selfish motive, but a desire to see the Service generally benefited.

A FRIEND OF ALL.

MULTICHARGE GUN.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal:

32 NASSAU ST., NEW YORK, Jan. 7, 1885.

In the issue of your paper of the 3d instant is an article making quotations from the papers published by the Committee of Military Affairs of the House of Representatives on the multicharge gun, with editorial comments on the same, in which you remark that Gen. Benét answered in advance all the claims of Mr. Haskell, and you say: "Just now the multicharge gun has been remitted to the scrap heap, but the question of its merits is still important to consider."

You are a little premature in stating that "Gen. Benét had answered all I claimed in advance." You had not seen my reply to Gen. Benét, which I send you with this, and submit these additional remarks.

Gen. Benét's mathematics are at fault, as I shall show. The multicharge gun, in the first series of experiments of 33 rounds, up to the time the muzzle end of the steel tube cracked, had—according to Gen. Benét's calculations, sent to me by him in his letter of Nov. 1, 1883—on the 30th round a muzzle energy of 2,855 foot tons, and a penetrating power of 14.3 inches into wrought iron, calculated by the Krupp formula.

He stated in the letter you published quotations from that the Krupp 8½-inch gun had a penetrating power 1½ times that of the 6-inch multicharge gun. He also further asserts that the 9 and 10-inch single-charge guns have a piercing power 2½ times that of the 6-inch multicharge gun.

I have the official list of the Krupp coast and naval guns in my possession, obtained from Mr. Krupp's agent in this city, and there are no guns of those calibres on the list. There are on the list, however, guns of 9.45 inches and 10.24 inches which are the nearest to 9 and 10 inches, and these are the guns I suppose Gen. Benét refers to. I give below a list of the Krupp guns, including one of about the same calibre as the multicharge gun, and those nearest the calibre referred to by Gen. Benét, with their muzzle penetration into wrought iron according to Krupp's authorized list. The results are those of his longest guns—35 calibres long.

5.9	inches, calibre,	penetration.	12.4
827	"	"	17.7
9.45	"	"	20
10.24	"	"	22

The 6 inch multicharge gun according to General Benét's calculations [30th round] had a penetration into wrought iron of 14.3 inches. The same gun on the 43d round had a muzzle energy of 3421.9 foot tons, and a penetration of 16.36 inches into wrought iron according to calculations made by the Ordnance Board by the Krupp formula. Gen. Benét says that Krupp's 8½ inch [8.27] gun has a penetrating power 1½ times that of the 6 inch multicharge gun. That would give the Krupp gun a penetration of 25.02 inches, while all that Krupp claims is 17.7 inches, an error of Gen. Benét of just 7.32 inches. As for his assertion that the 9 and 10 inch single charge guns have 2½ times the penetrating power of the 6 inch multicharge gun, let us examine. Now, 2½ times the penetration of the 6 inch multicharge gun would give a penetration of 35.75 inches into wrought iron, a penetration which no gun in the world has ever made, and which none but a multicharge gun ever can make. What then is the error of Gen. Benét in these cases?

In the 9.45 inch gun he makes a mistake of 15.75 inches, and in the 10.24 inch gun, he is just 13.75 inches out of the way. If there are Krupp 9 and 10 inch guns his errors would be still greater.

But what does a foot or so amount to in penetration into iron when a man undertakes to write down an important invention? It should be borne in mind that in making these statements Gen. Benét had before him only the penetrating power of the multicharge gun in the 30th round, which was 14.3 inches. He unfairly argued that that was the limit of its work although the trials had only just commenced. The gun has since, on the 43d round, shown a muzzle energy of 3421.9 foot tons, and a penetrating power of 16.36 inches by the addition of only 7 lbs. more powder.

The limit of even a 6-inch multicharge gun has not yet been reached. It is an acknowledged fact, demonstrated by Government tests of the cast iron and steel of which this gun was made, that the metal was so weak that if the gun had been made for the Government it would have been rejected. But it was the best we could get in this country, the art of fabricating guns here having gone out of use on the old plans, and not enough had been done with steel to obtain a suitable steel for guns in large enough masses. Yet with such inferior materials, redeemed by a superior principle, the most formidable results ever obtained by a 6-inch gun have been reached. But for this fact a muzzle energy of more than 4,000 foot tons and a penetration of 20 inches would have been the measure of our success. The new 6-inch multicharge gun which I have designed, to be made all of steel, will weigh much less than the present 6-inch gun, and will have a penetration into wrought iron of 22 inches without using a pressure exceeding 32,000 lbs per square inch.

There are still greater possibilities in the multicharge system.

General Benét, in his treatment of this gun, acts as if he were a partisan, and from the start has been looking for pretexts to put a stop to the thorough and exhaustive trial of the multicharge system which has been recommended by all the great boards of scientific and practical officers of the Army and Committees of Congress who have had the subject before them. He assumes to know all about the multicharge principle from the brief information he had derived from the first series of experiments of only 33 rounds fired from this, the first large multicharge gun ever made. There are officers of the Army and expert mechanical engineers much exceeding him in ability and reputation, who believe that it is of the utmost importance to the Government and the country, that a thorough and exhaustive course of experiments should be made with the multicharge system, and that these guns should be made of the best steel that can be got, with the im-

provements that experience has suggested to fully test the system.

The Committee on Military Affairs of the House received and read the adverse report of General Benét, and also that of the Ordnance Board. After hearing my reply, the Committee, by a unanimous vote, recommended the appropriation I had asked for to make and test the new multicharge guns.

J. R. HASKELL.

CAP TO THE WASHINGTON MONUMENT.

"CARTOUCHE, a friend and subscriber would like to be informed as to the exact dimensions and weight of the solid aluminium cap which surrounds the Washington monument, receiving and refracting the first and last rays of the 'God of Day' as he rises and rests in his diurnal journey, so to speak. In all the descriptions of the closing ceremonies, recording the completion of this important and magnificent work, these items of information have been through neglect or design omitted. I understand that the substance of which this cap-piece is composed, is lighter than all other metals, is more durable than bronze and only less expensive, from the labor and care in its production, than silver: it is not subject to wear and corrosion by atmospheric influence, so that the chief architect, as he held the small pyramid in his dexter hand for final adjustment, might well have quoted the words: '*Finis coronat opus exegi monumentum are perennius.*'"

The base of the aluminium pyramid is 5½ inches square, and the height 9½ inches. Its weight is 100 oz. If it were made of copper its weight would be 326 oz. It is the largest block of aluminium ever made or cast in any country. The surface appears much whiter than silver, and is so highly polished that it reflects as a plate glass mirror. Its weight is one fourth that of silver.

FORT JEFFERSON, DRY TORTUGAS.

A CORRESPONDENT OF THE N. Y. TRIBUNE, describing Fort Jefferson, Dry Tortugas, says:

"Fort Jefferson looms up to the left, six-sided, rising three tiers from the very water, made entirely of brick surrounded by a seawall of coral rock and mortar half a mile in length. The fronts are pierced with three rows of ports, while the upper tier is arranged for the larger barbette guns. It was impressive, yet a curious commentary upon the times, as the great work, costing millions of dollars, when a dollar meant more than it does now, is utterly useless as a ward of defence and stands as a monument of the folly of building expensive works of other material than simple Mother Earth. The position of the fort is extremely favorable to repel an attack, lying in the centre of a growing atoll, the narrow channel, hardly a stone's throw in width, completely surrounding it and leading vessel completely under the guns. About the first impression gained here is that the man who first called the place 'Dry' must have been under the influence of something very wet at the time. Wet Tortugas is the name that should have been given, as the fort rises almost directly from the water, and the Key is so low that water often at high tides appears in the interior. In fact it is a case of 'water, water everywhere.' The great fort is built on a sand-bank called Garden Key, and is now in possession of a soldier of ordnance and the lighthouse keeper. These two men reign supreme in what is now certainly one of the most desolate spots on the coast. Where a few years ago a large garrison made it somewhat lively, now not a sound is heard. Here are lofty buildings slowly going to decay, and everything gives evidence of the utter solitude that has taken possession, and that it is felt by the dwellers here can be realized from the fact that the wife of one of the men has gone mad from mere loneliness. Entering the great sally port, the reason for naming the place Garden Key became apparent. Groups of cocoa palms rose here and there, and a few steps beyond began a grove of low bay cedars, through which the walk led to the fine buildings intended as officers' quarters. 'I lived there five years,' said my companion, pointing to a room, 'and gay times we had too. In that set of rooms Capt. Meigs lived—now the Commissary General. Gen. Woodbury occupied them before him. He died of yellow fever at Key West. A good many officers that afterward became famous were stationed here at one time or another.'

MCKEEVER'S BESETTING SIN.

THE correspondent of the Philadelphia Record tells the following story, for which we do not vouch. We certainly never heard it before: General Chauncy McKeever, of the Army, a bluff, hearty, good-hearted veteran, who always speaks his mind with freedom and emphasis, is not to be court-martialed for expressing his opinion about Hazen's mismanagement of the Arctic expeditions. Somehow the War Department does not consider McKeever the proper one to court-martial. They tell a good story about McKeever in Army circles which you ought to hear. It seems that some years ago McKeever was a witness before a court-martial in the West and refused, for his own good reasons, to testify. The court reasoned with him but he was immovable. He simply would not testify. So he was committed for contempt and sent to Washington in arrest. On his way to Washington McKeever met a brother officer. "Where are you going?" asked the latter. "To Washington," replied McKeever. "Ordered there," asked the brother officer. "Yes," said McKeever, "in arrest." "In arrest," repeated his friend in astonishment; "for what?" "For the strangest reason imaginable. I can't expect anybody who knows me to believe it. It is for keeping my mouth shut."

LIEUTENANT J. T. THOMPSON, 2d U. S. Artillery, of Fort McHenry, Md., is spending a fortnight leave with friends in Cincinnati.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Subscriber.—You stand 44 on Commissary Sergeant list.

J. W. S.—Write to the Adjutant General, State of New York, Albany, N. Y., giving full particulars.

G. A.—You stand 21 on Commissary Sergeant list, but your appointment as Post Q. M. Sergeant was made Jan. 8.

C. A. G.—Your papers are all right and you have been recommended for appointment as Post Q. M. Sergeant.

A correspondent asks: Who was the Attorney in the "Graham Mileage Case"? Ans.—Messrs Jones and Sims, of Washington, D. C.

W. S.—If you pleaded guilty on an arraignment under an incorrect surname the case will stand. You do not give enough information for us to thoroughly decide the point at issue.

Inquirer.—Write to the Navy Department, Washington, D. C., and give full particulars as to your father, his full name, the year you think he enlisted in the Navy, etc., and perhaps you may gain some information as to what has become of him.

Subscriber asks: Where can I procure a copy of the Annual Naval Register and also the Register of the Naval Academy, if there be one? Ans.—A letter addressed to the Chief Clerk, Navy Department, Washington, D. C., might procure you what you desire.

J. B. S. asks: Whether or not it is customary for the lieutenants to sheathe swords while standing at place rest during a company inspection. Ans.—At the inspection of a single company, it is customary for the subalterns either to accompany the captain or to assist him in the inspection, and when this is the case they sheathe swords. At a battalion inspection, when the lieutenants face about and assume in place rest, the swords are not returned.

A correspondent asks: Whether a member of the National Guard of this State is liable for jury duty after the expiration of his term of service. Ans.—Par. 145 of the Mil. Code says: Every commissioned officer and every enlisted man of the National Guard shall be exempt from jury duty provided he shall furnish the certificate of his commanding officer that he has performed the duties required of him for the foregoing year; and every such person who shall have so served for the full term of his enlistment, and has been honorably discharged, shall forever after be exempt from jury duty.

In the JOURNAL of Dec. 20 we answered the inquiry of a correspondent who was concerned to know whether playing poker with chips is a violation of the Regulation against gambling. Possibly the following, from the Cleveland Herald, may throw some additional light on the subject: "Prisoner," said Prosecutor Buxton, "you are charged with gambling." "Gambling? What is gambling?" "Playing cards for money." "But I did not play cards for money; I played for chips." "Well, you got money for chips at the end of the game, didn't you?" "No; I didn't have any chips at the end of the game." The testimony being all in, Buxton moved, and Judge Hutchins agreed, that the case be nolled."

Another correspondent asks the question, substantially the same as that answered last week, viz.: What will be the number of vacancies there probably will be in the grade of second lieutenant in the Army after the West Point class of 1885 is provided for? Ans.—Unless the cadets succeed in their appeal to Congress, to keep open the vacancies that occur in the grade of second lieutenant until they graduate in 1886, there will be a chance for the non-commissioned officer and civilian this year. The graduating class of this year will number thirty-nine. There are already thirty-two vacancies. Three more will occur by retirements of officers in the line on account of age, thus requiring only three more to make up the number of vacancies for the graduates. While the casualties for the past six months have not been so high as for the same period last year, there will doubtless be more than three occur and probably a dozen.

The paper offered by Major W. R. King, U. S. A., in competition for Annual Prize, Military Service Institution, and which received a second honorable mention, has been published in pamphlet form. The subject, it will be remembered, is "The Military Necessities of the United States, and the Best Provisions for Meeting Them." It is a well written and carefully considered paper, containing many excellent suggestions for the improvement of our Military Service, which will, we hope, receive the attention they deserve.

THE SWAIM COURT.

THE SWAIM Court-martial continues to drag its slow length along without developing anything further of interest, some paper seeking to enliven the proceedings by saying that the court has at length "struck a point of some human interest, in the question as to the competency of a witness who has no definite belief about the existence of a personal God and a future state of rewards and punishments."

The court during the past week has wrestled with the question, as to why DE AKERS left the employment of BATEMAN. H. V. BOYNTON testified to telling General SWAIM that he heard it was because of his refusal to furnish a false transcript of information which he received from New York over the wires for use in stock transactions; but that was after the publication of BATEMAN's letters and previous to the assembling of the Court of Inquiry.

General SWAIM was recalled, and made some explanation of statements made by him under cross-examination. He said that he had not been in the business of loaning money to brother officers, and that whenever he had made loans to them they had fixed the time of payment and the rate of interest charged whenever interest was to be paid.

The defence objecting, the court refused to receive the testimony of HUNTER BROOKE, a clerk in the War Department, who was called to impeach the statements by General SWAIM concerning his part in the battle of Chickamauga. Mr. GROSVENOR enlivened the proceedings by a contest with the court growing out of his treatment of J. STANLEY BROWN, whom he characterized as "a witness with a supplementary memory." The President asked GROSVENOR to bear in mind that the witness was entitled to the protection of the court, to which he replied that he supposed that this witness was as

much entitled to it as were McDONNELL and TERRY (witnesses for the defence), and he added: "I do not propose to be driven from my duty by bluster." He was proceeding with his remarks, when the President rapped him to order, and said that his language was not considered respectful in the presence of the court, and that the court hoped it would not be repeated. General GROSVENOR disclaimed any intentional disrespect, and replied to the inquiry of a member of the court that the word "bluster" did not refer to any blustering on the part of the court, but to the bluster of counsel on other side.

An argument was also had as to the status of Mr. CHANDLER, associate counsel. Mr. BATEMAN stated that he had not employed him, and Mr. GROSVENOR contended that his recognition as a Government officer made a fatal and incurable defect in the record, the statute forbidding any one but the Judge Advocate to represent the Government. On Thursday Judge SHELLABARGER commenced his argument on behalf of the accused.

Values of the Standard Coins.

In pursuance of the provisions of Section 3564 of the Revised Statutes of the United States, HORATIO C. BURCHARD, Director of the Mint, has estimated the values of the standard coins in circulation of the various nations of the world, and submitted the same in the accompanying table, which we publish for the benefit of naval officers more especially:

Estimates of Values of Foreign Coins.*

Country.	Monetary Unit.	Standard.	Value in U. S. Money.
Argentine Rep.	Peso.	Gold and silv.	.065
Austria.	Florin.	Silver.	.093
Belgium.	Franc.	Gold and silv.	.193
Bolivia.	Holviano.	Silver.	.795
Brazil.	Milreis of 1000 reis.	Gold.	.546
British Possessions in N. A.	Dollar.	Gold.	\$1.00
Chili.	Peso.	Gold and silv.	.912
Cuba.	Peso.	Gold and silv.	.932
Denmark.	Crown.	Gold.	.268
Ecuador.	Peso.	Silver.	.705
Egypt.	Plaster.	Gold.	.049
France.	Franc.	Gold and silv.	.193
German Empire.	Mark.	Gold.	.238
Great Britain.	Pound sterling.	Gold.	4.8666
Greece.	Drachma.	Gold and silv.	.173
Hayti.	Gourde.	Gold and silv.	.565
India.	Rupee of 16 annas.	Silver.	.378
Italy.	Lira.	Gold and silv.	.193
Japan.	Yen.	Silver.	.858
Liberia.	Dollar.	Gold.	1.00
Mexico.	Dollar.	Gold.	.884
Netherlands.	Florin.	Gold and silv.	.403
Norway.	Crown.	Gold.	.268
Peru.	Sol.	Silver.	.795
Portugal.	Milreis of 1000 reis.	Gold.	1.08
Russia.	Rouble of 100 cop'ks.	Silver.	.636
Spain.	Peseta of 100 c'mes.	Gold and silv.	.193
Sweden.	Crown.	Gold.	.268
Switzerland.	Franc.	Gold and silv.	.193
Tripoli.	Mahbub of 20 piast's.	Silver.	.717
Turkey.	Plaster.	Gold.	.044
U. S. Colombia.	Peso.	Silver.	.795
Venezuela.	Bolivar.	Gold and silv.	.193

*We omit the column headed Standard Coin.—ED.

AMERICAN OFFICERS UNDER CHINESE COLORS.

SPEAKING of the reported resignation of officers of the United States Navy who desire to enter the service of China in the event of war between that country and France, the *Courrier des Etats Unis* says:

"The only plausible explanation of this instinctive antagonism is the innate propensity of Americans to follow in everything the footsteps of the English, to love what the English love, to hate what the English hate, and, in fact, to copy from the English the personality that is wanting in themselves. It is well known that the great aim of American ladies is to imitate the airs, the style, the dress, and even the affectations of the dames of England. It is also the highest feather in the caps of high-toned sportsmen to be able to ape the British swells and mashes. In the same way the American politicians endeavor to hold the coat tails of John Bull and follow him all through his foreign policy. We have a hundred times had occasion to call attention to this mania of imitation which makes of Americans the blind satellites of the English. But it is their affair; we can't do anything in the matter. Since France has always received insults from Americans in proportion to the deference and delicate attentions which she has extended toward them, she can now act in the matter just as one would in regard to the vulgar manners of a man too low bred, or too ignorant to understand such things.

"Let American officers enlist, if they please, under the banner of the Green Dragon, and let them fight against the tri-color under the orders of Tsong-Li-Yamen. We don't care. Only we would remind them charitably that on entering the service of a belligerent nation, they run all the risks of soldiers of that nation; they will cease to be Americans to become Chinese. They must also remember that if they have the right to be treated simply as enemies engaged in the regular navy of China, they may also be treated as thieves and hanged to the yard arm like pirates if they are found on board privateers. In a word, the situation in which these gentlemen would be placed might not be so sure, so easy, and so rose-colored as they imagine. It is all very well to be officers of the American navy, but it

is impossible to turn coolies into gunners and sailors capable of contending with men like those under Admiral Courbet. No doubt they might create some difficulties for the latter, but they certainly would have a poor chance with him, and we would not advise them to meddle in the matter."

HOW TORPEDO BOAT NO. 45 WAS HANDLED.

M. LATOUR, commander of the torpedo boat which blew up a Chinese ship at Foo Chow, is at present in Paris, where he has undergone an operation, for the extraction of the ball which shattered one of his eyes at the time of his memorable exploit. A gentleman who recently saw him managed to conquer his modesty and obtained from him an account offeat unprecedented in the history of naval warfare.

M. Latour reviewed his eleven men and went to bed. Next day he held another review. All was in good order. On touching at Saigon, not long before, he had had the openings in his vessel armored with sheet-iron. A kind of iron hood protected the head of each of his men. He wore a hood, too, covering all but his face. That he was obliged to leave exposed. Had he not to keep his eye on everything? He was well acquainted with the ship which he had to attack, for in one of his reconnoitering excursions, which he playfully called his "tours du Bois," he had carefully examined it. All his plans were ready.

"Send my pay money to France," said he that morning to the paymaster, "or it will have a good chance of going to the bottom with me."

He was only awaiting the signal now. As soon as a certain flag ran up at the mast of the flagship the attack was to begin. His eyes were steadily fixed on the mast. At last the flag ran up. The moment had come.

Quick as lightning the torpedo boat darted forward. In a moment it had reached the Chinese ship. The torpedo exploded. The enemy's vessel began to sink.

"Reverse engines!" ("Machine en arriere") cries the officer.

But, alas! the torpedo boat made no sign of moving. Its metal prow was imbedded in the side of the ship.

Then came four minutes of anguish. M. Latour watched the Chinese vessel gradually sinking. It seemed too certain he would sink with it. Looking upward, too, just then, he could clearly see the terrified Chinese crew on deck. They knew they were doomed and were snatching up any arms they could, burning to avenge themselves. Gun and revolver shots began to rain on the little boat. Several hand grenades were flung at it. Looking up again, M. Latour saw a Chinese officer taking aim at him with a pistol. He fired. The aim was true. The French officer was hit and blinded in one eye.

Even then he did not lose his self control. A wounded sailor behind him was groaning.

"What are you groaning for?" said M. Latour.

"My arm's broken, Cap'n."

"My eye has just been smashed," replied the officer, "and I'm quiet enough."

"Beg pardon cap'n, I didn't know that," said the sailor. He did not groan any more after that.

"Reverse engines!" again cried the wounded officer.

This time they succeeded. No. 45 torpedo boat got quit of the Chinese vessel and shot off down the Min as swiftly as it had shot forward. As it passed an English vessel it was greeted with loud hurrahs. As soon as it was out of gun shot it stopped. M. Latour looked back. The Chinese ship had gone down. It had taken just nine minutes to sink it. The young officer had done his duty.

M. Latour is a young man of about thirty, broad shouldered and rather short. His closely cut beard is fair and pointed. The one eye left him is blue.

The other eye has been taken out with the ball. A black band covers the empty orbit. As soon as the glass eye has been put in M. Latour will go back to the East and ask for another mission.

When any one speaks of his Foo Chow exploits he exclaims;

"Oh, that will soon be forgotten."

But it will not, Captain.

FOREIGN ITEMS.

GENERAL LEBEL, the new French minister of war, is evidently a man of action. He announces that troops to the number of 12,000 are to be sent to Tonquin before the close of February.

MAJOR General Downes, commandant of the South Australian military forces, says of the Rifle Volunteer Force: "Under the influence of the first burst of enthusiasm the men made a good start, but there has been a steady decline in efficiency and patriotic spirit, until I now look upon it as but a little better, if at all, than a shooting club on a large scale, subsidized by the Government."

THE British Admiralty has sold 31,000 ounces of silver plate, and in future commanding officers will draw for their personal use electro-plate instead of silver. The reason assigned is that since the improvements of late years in electro-plating, the officers prefer it to silver.

Advices from Saigon state that the transports arriving there are crowded with invalid soldiers. It is reported that the cholera and typhoid fever are

ravaging the troops in the Tonquin delta. The Anamite troops near Hanoi have revolted. They pillaged the Commissariat and killed the French guards. They then dispersed with the intention of joining the pirates.

The Madagascar Committee of the French Chamber of Deputies has prepared a report adverse to the extension of offensive operations in Madagascar. It recommends that the operations be limited to a maintenance of the posts already occupied. Further enterprise in Madagascar, unless the forces there shall be largely reinforced, is condemned alike by the army officers who were examined before the commission and by Gen. Miot, the commanding officer of the forces now there.

ADMIRAL COURBET has given notice of the resumption of the French blockade of Formosa, and on Monday the British Admiralty issued an official notice through the press to all owners and masters of vessels that the French blockade was again in force, and this was the first intimation that many of them had that it was ever suspended. Marquis Tseng, the Chinese Ambassador in London, has formally protested against the action of the English officer and Admiralty Office. He claims that England has again violated the neutrality laws and has aided to make effective a paper blockade which France could never enforce by her own fleet.

It will be remembered that two days after Admiral Courbet's bombardment of Foochow the Kinpai forts in the Minn River fired by mistake on the English gunboat *Zephyr* and wounded an officer, Lieut. Hubbard, who subsequently died of his injuries. Ample and satisfactory apologies were made at the time, as well by the local authorities as by the Government at Pekin, to the English Minister and to Admiral Dowell. The Chinese have gone further, and by Imperial decree have degraded the commander, Yan Chin-pao, forever. He is prohibited from being employed, even as a volunteer, in any capacity in any Chinese military force whatever; he is stripped of his official rank, and is sentenced to perpetual degradation. It is believed that this severe punishment has been spontaneously inflicted by the Chinese Government.

The following is the Committee on Militia in the N. Y. Assembly: Messrs. Raines, of Ontario; Bailey, of Genessee; Curtis, of St. Lawrence; Barnum, of New York; Farnum, of Wayne; Berry, of Fulton and Hamilton; Horton, of Chautauqua; Barager, of Tioga; Jackson, of Erie; McCann, of Kings; Horne, of Niagara.

THE STATE TROOPS.

MILITARY ETIQUETTE AND SUBORDINATION.

We have recently had our attention called to an incident which gives lamentable proof that even in some of the best regiments of the National Guard of New York, the non-commissioned officers are left without proper instruction in military routine and etiquette, and as to how, when and where to address their superior officers and what subjects it is proper to discuss with them.

A division commander, it is reported, intends to assemble his command for field instruction on a certain day. In spite of recent orders directing military business to be transacted only at certain places and times, a general officer was recently sought out in his personal place of business by a sergeant of one of the regiments of his command who paralyzed him by presenting the preposterous request that the date fixed for the field day should be changed, because the non-commissioned officers' organization, of which the applicant is a member, intended to hold one of their social entertainments, and the field work might interfere! And this precious request, it appeared, came with the sanction of the colonel of the regiment. This request disposed of, a second to the same effect followed from another representative of the non-commissioned officers' persuasion, belonging to a different regiment, whose request, it is well to say, was made without the sanction of any authority. This applicant was promptly referred to his regimental commander, who, no doubt, explained to him his position in such a manner that he will henceforth not interfere with the orders and business of his superior officer.

If company commanders gave proper attention to the instruction of their subordinates, such breaches of discipline and etiquette would be impossible. The non-commissioned officers of the National Guard are intelligent men, and could easily be made to understand what is due, as much to their own self respect as to the demands of discipline. Not only should military etiquette and propriety be taught, but a definite settlement should be made of the question: "Shall we have business before pleasure, or pleasure before business?"

The aim of the company commander should be not only to educate his non-commissioned officers to be models of soldierly bearing, but to train them thoroughly in all that pertains to military etiquette, and to thoroughly understand the obligations and requirements of their positions and what is due to their superiors of all grades. With a well-trained corps of non-commissioned officers the entire company will soon become imbued with a proper military spirit, discipline will be rendered easier, and the labors of all, especially those of the captain, will naturally become lessened. This maxim, which holds good in a regular organization, applies with

increased force to a body of volunteers under the "discipline of courtesy." The social relations, which to a greater or less extent exist between all grades of the State military in their ordinary intercourse, when off duty, develop at all times a tendency to undermine the discipline necessary while on duty, and only by the strictest adherence to all the forms of military etiquette, a correct military bearing, and stringent observance of respect to superiors can this tendency be counteracted. A military organization can only be governed on military principles. Whenever these principles are relaxed, the organization at once disintegrates, loses its military character, and becomes practically of no value. The superiority of trained and disciplined military bodies over unorganized forces rests simply on the fact that their work represents the practical, powerful embodiment of the idea of the action of a single will, through the united and simultaneous efforts of a multitude. Without the capacity of acting in this manner, a military body becomes a farce, and is unworthy of the respect and support of the people. The necessity of instructing all the different grades as to the nature and extent of their duties and privileges is a matter of first importance.

THE SEVENTH NEW YORK IN ENGLAND.

We gave last week the concluding paragraph of an article on the 7th N. Y. Regiment, which appears in the *Army and Navy Gazette* of London. The remainder of the article is as follows. It is apparently from the pen of Dr. Wm. Howard Russell, whose experiences in this country, as the correspondent of the *London Times* at the outbreak of our Civil War, are well remembered. He has apparently gotten the German General Blenker mixed up with Bunker Hill, which naturally occurs to the mind of an Englishman when he recalls our military experiences.

The Americans became a nation in virtue of military successes, which they did not achieve unaided, and which it is doubtful if they would have achieved at all at the time had France not given her Generals, fleets, and soldiers to help them. They met with indifferent fortune in their attempts to invade Canada. They had to set off the repulse of Pakenham at New Orleans against the capture and destruction of their capital in the war of 1812; and the military operations so ably executed by Winfield Scott against Mexico, very brilliant as they were, only found a brave but undisciplined and badly generalized enemy to test their skill and valor. The Americans have been engaged in only one very great war—the North against the South—in fact, since they started on their own account. Now, it is admitted that the contest of 1861-2-3 was characterized by great waste of time, men, and money, owing to unscientific methods, inexperience, and other defects which baffled the fiery courage of the South, and frittered away the strength of the North in much impotent, if bloody, adventure. It was in officers trained at West Point, and with such practical knowledge as Mexico afforded, that the North and South discovered their military leaders. They both had large contingents of trained foreign soldiers, especially the North. It was Bunker [Blenker?] who covered the retreat of the fugitives from Bull Run No. 1, and it was Germany which gave disciplined leaven to the levies of Ohio, Pennsylvania, Michigan, etc., as it was France which in some degree "martialized" the levies of the Atlantic States. But the Americans on both sides fought splendidly after a time. They worked out of the panic stage, and at the close of the war there were materials of the finest possible character for any enterprise a capable leader could undertake in war. It would be absurd if the United States maintained a Regular Army for the glory and honor of the thing. The Government keeps up not too much Army, but Army enough. Still, if in 1861 there had been 20,000 Regulars available to meet Beauregard at Manassas Junction, instead of the small detachment under Fitz-John Porter the Southern rebellion would have been there and then stamped out. Richmond would have fallen, and hundreds of thousands of lives have been spared. But retrospective and hypothetical comment of this sort is not very valuable. The Militia Regiment, of which Mr. Clark gives us an account, is described on its banners as "The Gallant, Glorious Seventh" of New York, which was first known in 1826, and which, we are told, served against the mobs of New York in 1824, 1830, 1837, and 1840 to save the city from destruction:

"In 1849 it performed a service which should entitle it to the respect of all Englishmen. The great English actor, Macready, was besieged by thousands of fanatical supporters of the American actor, Forrest, at the Astor Place Opera House, and the 7th was summoned to protect him. Against overwhelming odds they bravely stood their ground, and out of the 211 who appeared for duty, 141 were killed or injured. But the mob was routed; and a New York mob, the most ferocious of all mobs, has never since dared to attack the 7th."

From that year till 1861 the regiment was not engaged:

"In 1861 came the attack on Sumter, and hardly had the call for volunteers been issued, when the regiment reported as being ready for active duty. No such readiness and coolness on the part of citizen soldiery had ever been seen.

Within twenty-four hours after notice, a thousand business men had laid aside—as if permanently—all civil business, and had become soldiers, ready to act resolutely and promptly."

Mr. Clark does not tell us what the regiment did as a corps. He says:

"Within a month the regiment returned, and immediately was called upon to furnish officers for the entire Army. 600 of its members received commissions, privates in many instances being made captains and colonels of other regiments. It is the pride and glory of the regiment that it became a regiment of officers, and that, as the reward of conspicuous bravery, 19 of its men became brigadier generals, 3 major generals, 29 colonels, and 46 lieutenant colonels, the majority of whom had in the parent regiment been privates."

For a full and interesting description of the Headquarters of this military club in New York, we must refer our readers to the memoir in the pamphlet entitled "Public Opinion in Europe and the United States," published by Hazell and Co., London and Aylesbury. Mr. Clark concludes his *elogie* as follows:

"Such is a brief description of a famous American Militia Regiment, and it may be urged that, after all, since its members joined the service more for the purpose of taking part in the pomp and circumstance of war than with any expectation of fighting, the perfection of its organization and discipline is of small importance. But it must be remembered that regiments such as this, composed of citizen soldiers, have fought the battles of the nation, and may do so again, and such regiments therefore acquire importance in the United States. There has been a time in the national history when the moral influence of the 7th Regiment's discipline and readiness was sufficient to arouse the nation and save it; and it is in recognition of this fact that the noble statue of the '7th Regiment soldier' was erected in the finest of New York's parks. A description of its methods may not, therefore, be unworthy of the attention of the soldiers of that kindred nation, the drum-beat of whose garrisons is heard

all round the world; and they may, perhaps, read with interest of the skill of soldiers whose ancestors were the only men who could defeat a British Army, and who in the future may, should the grand dream of an Anglo-Saxon League be ever realized, march shoulder to shoulder with Englishmen."

THE NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

The attendance at the annual meeting of the National Rifle Association at the 22d Regiment Armory, on Tuesday evening, January 13, was so meagre and the meeting so uninteresting and brief that the old timers who assisted in the establishment of the association, and partook in the glories of its palmy days, were astonished and dejected. Whatever may have been the mistakes committed by the association, Creedmoor has produced results in the rifle world which can never be overestimated, and to neglect it would not only be disgrace to all who have partaken of its benefits, but also the death blow to marksmanship as a national institution.

The reports of the president and secretary for the year just closed are comparatively encouraging. The fact that the qualification matches of the National Guard proved the only remunerative ones shows that the system of rifle firing is gradually developing in the proper direction—military marksmanship, which is gratifying, and so are the satisfactory results obtained from the system of increased prizes introduced last season. The intention of the association to regulate matters so as to prevent the "mug hunters" from carrying off all the prizes, will be received with satisfaction, and the prospect of an International Match during the ensuing season will no doubt give new impetus to rifle matters and to Creedmoor.

Gen. George W. Wingate, vice-president, had the chair at the meeting, and made an address, giving the history of the National Rifle Association during the past year. In the course of his remarks he said: "We were fortunate during the past year in having upon the range during the annual meeting a large number of United States soldiers, belonging to the Department of the Atlantic, who displayed a high degree of skill, which enabled them to bear off the Hilton trophy and many other prizes. The union of representatives of the Army and National Guard, during occasions of this kind, is beneficial to both, and it is hoped that the present year will witness a representation from the other Departments of the Army, as being also among the competitors. Upon the whole, we may safely say that in view of the great business depression which has so unfavorably affected all kinds of amusements, our Association has reason to congratulate itself upon having done so well during the past year, and I feel that it is deeply indebted to its present Directors, as well as to its Secretary and Treasurer, for the time and attention which they have devoted to their very onerous duties, for which I personally desire to publicly express my most sincere acknowledgments."

Col. John Ward, the Secretary, in his report gave the following synopsis of the results of the different matches held during the fall meeting:

Amount received for entrance fees	\$2,145 00
Fifty per cent. of cash received for pool tickets	188 00
Additional amount for pool entries	9 50
Received for fines and disputed shots	6 00

Total receipts \$2,342 50

The range at Creedmoor is in good condition, except that the woodwork of the butts has become decayed from lapse of time. The requisite repairs will cost from \$500 to \$700.

The annual statement of the Range Superintendent shows that he has received from the Treasurer the sum of \$2,444 08 From other sources, marking, etc. 710 27

Total	\$3,154 35
Which has been expended as follows:	
Marking and labor	\$1,981 58
Supplies	131 05
Miscellaneous expenses	81 72
Superintendent's salary	960 00

Total \$3,154 35

The receipts for marking are \$210 more than in 1883, while the expenses have been \$34.35 less. The Association has had some 25 matches on at Creedmoor during the past year, 10 of which were marksmen's matches, and the remainder off-hand and long range. The marksmen's matches were a source of profit to the Association, while in all the other matches the entrance fees were not sufficient to even pay for the scorers and markers, the amount of cash given by the Association being about \$200, a total loss to it.

The election of officers and committees then took place, and resulted as follows: Directors for three years—Major Geo. Shorkley, U. S. A.; Col. Chas. E. Bridge, N. G. S. N. Y.; Lieut. S. E. Allen, 5th U. S. Artillery; Lieut. J. S. Shepherd, 23d Regiment, N. Y.; Mr. James Duane, New York Rifle Club. After the adjournment the new Board of Directors proceeded to the election of officers and the appointment of committees for the year. Gen. C. F. Robbins, seconded by Lieut. E. L. Zalinski, proposed for President Lieut.-Gen. Sheridan, U. S. A., and the proposal was unanimously adopted. The following ticket was also elected: Vice-President, Gen. George W. Wingate; Secretary, Lieut. John S. Shepherd; Treasurer, Col. Rodney C. Ward. Gen. Wingate at first declined the position of Vice-President, but when pressed hard by the entire Board consented to accept. Col. John Ward received a vote of thanks for his arduous services as Secretary during the year, and a similar compliment was paid to the 22d Regiment for the use of the armory. The Vice-President then appointed the following committee of the year: Range—Gen. Robbins, Col. Story, and Major Shorkley. Prize—Col. John Ward, Lieut. Shepherd, and J. H. Brown. Finance—Col. Chas. E. Bridge, Major Finecke, and Capt. Ackerman. Col. Story, Capt. de Forest, and Lieut. Zalinski were also elected as the Executive Committee for the year.

OUR MILITIA.

To the Editor of the *Army and Navy Journal*:

THE questions propounded in your issue of Jan. 10, 1884, are somewhat difficult to understand, or at least their application to the point at issue. So far as the writer is aware, there never has been and never can be, any question as to the authority of the President to call upon the Militia of any State,

and direct them to proceed to any point, *within the territory of the United States*, "to execute the laws of the Union, to suppress rebellion and repel invasion." That such has always been the opinion of Congress is shown in such Acts as may be found in Sections 1654 and 1655, Revised Statutes, wherein provision is made for the use of the Militia on the Western frontier.

That a clear understanding of the point at issue may be arrived at, I would suggest the following hypothetical case:

War has been declared between the United States and Great Britain—volunteers have been called for. Pending the organization of these troops, the General of the Army advises that certain ungarrisoned towns or important strategic points in Canada be seized before the British or Canadian troops have time to fortify them. Question.—Has the President of the United States any authority, under the Constitution, to call the National Guard of the State of New York into active service and direct them to cross the Canada frontier, seize certain points, and hold them for three months, unless sooner relieved by United States' troops proper? Does such an Act come within the three constitutional provisions, viz.: "To execute the laws of the Union, to suppress rebellion and repel invasion?"

In conclusion, permit me to call attention to the distinction made in the Revised Statutes between the two terms, "the Militia" and "the Militia of the States," the former being applied to the enrolled Militia provided for in Sections 1625–26–27 and 28; the latter being that organization provided for in Sections 1630–31, etc. The Militia, when called into service, is now to be organized under Sections 1645–46 and following. But the Militia of the States may be called into the Service under their own organization; that is, the one prescribed in Sections 1630–31, etc. Unless this distinction is kept in view some of the provisions of the various laws are difficult to understand.

G. N. WHISTLER, 1st Lieutenant, 5th Art.

NEW YORK.

MAJOR GEN. MOLINEUX orders as follows: The 2d Division will parade on Monday, Feb. 23, at Prospect Park, Brooklyn, for instruction and improvement in the field manoeuvres, assembling at the plaza entrance in fatigue uniform and overcoats. The 3d Brigade and the 3d Battery (dismounted), with howitzers, at 2 o'clock, and the advance guard of the 4th Brigade at 2.30 o'clock, P. M., the remainder of the latter Brigade at such time as may be ordered by the Brigade commander. The opportunity thus afforded for instruction, where the public can see how far the Division has progressed in field efficiency, should be taken advantage of, both for the instruction of officers and men of the line and Staff officers in the duties of their particular departments.

Bayonets and ramrods will be left at the armories, and a full and careful inspection will be made before leaving the armories of each and every rifle and cartridge box, as well as the clothing of the men, to prevent the possibility of any ball cartridges being in their possession.

In the general plan, the 3d Brigade will take the defensive and the 4th Brigade the offensive, the details for carrying out of which may be ordered by Brigade commanders, as in their judgment may seem best, subject, however, to such modifications by the Division commander as may be necessary to prevent confusion and undue pressure. All movements must be executed in a deliberate and careful manner; and to this end Brigade commanders will so manoeuvre as to insure, at all times, a space of not less than thirty yards between opposing lines. If time permits, movements will be made in reverse, that is, the 3d Brigade attacking and the 4th Brigade acting on the defensive.

Maps for the use of Brigade commanders in instructing their commands will be furnished from these Headquarters.

The character of the ground which will be used being well calculated for skirmishing, advancing and retreating in line, relieving lines of battle, attack and defence of posts, the passage of streams and defiles, and all other movements commonly used in action, Brigade commanders will cause the drills of their organizations, between now and the day appointed, to be conducted as far as practicable in armories, with a view of preparing officers and men for such movements.

The 7th Regiment on last quarterly return still reports 5 companies with maximum strength of 108. The figures of the whole regiment are as follows: F. and S. 21, Co. A 103, B 103, C 96, D 79, E 72, F 103, G 103, H 101, I 103, K 92. Total 977—last report 961.

The Drum Majors' Association held their annual meeting Dec. 28, 1884, and the following gentlemen were elected to office for the ensuing year: George W. Brown, president; H. Eason, vice-president; W. H. Samo, secretary; W. W. Beavan, treasurer; H. C. Dobson, sergeant-at-arms. After business the gallant knights of the sheep skins adjourned, to meet and have a grand lunch at their next meeting.

The question as to the colonelcy of the 71st, was decided on Monday evening, Jan. 12, by the election of Mr. Edw. McAlpin to the position. As Col. McAlpin once held the position of Major in the 71st, he is no stranger to them, and those who elected him had every reason to know what they were about. Major McAlpin, some four years ago, left the 71st to accept the captaincy of Company A, of the 7th, but the arrangement proved unsatisfactory and he left the Service some time after. He is rich, energetic, popular and well liked, and as he has promised to use every endeavor to bring the once famous organization back to its old standard, he deserves a fair field and cordial support. The vote stood 10 to 8, the other candidate being Capt. W. V. King of Company B, 22d regiment. Major Kopper evidently did not stand as good a chance as was generally expected.

The 9th regiment has been ordered out for battalion drill in State Service dress as follows: Companies D and H, Jan. 16 and 23d; A, C and K, Jan. 19 and 26; B, F, G and I, Jan. 20 and 27; E, A, H, G and K, Feb. 3 and 10; B, I, D, C and F, Feb. 5 and 12. The Commissioned Staff, excepting the Ad-

jutant, will be excused from these drills. This Regiment will assemble for Battalion Drill on Friday, February 20. Assembly at 8 o'clock, P. M. The Regimental Examining Board for '85, for the examination of Non-commissioned Officers will consist of Captain S. E. Japha, Company E; Captain Noah L. Cocheu, Company B; 1st Lieutenant E. Cleveland Wells, Company I.

We have received an invitation to the Third Annual Promenade Concert and Reception of the Drum and Bugle Corps of the 13th regiment, at the Armory on Wednesday evening, Jan. 21.

At a recent meeting of the 4th Co., 7th Regt., an election was held for civil officers with the following result: Treasurer.—Chas. T. Dillingham; Recording Secretary.—Sergt. Franklin Bouker; Fin. Sec.—Sergt. M. M. Rogers; Recruiting Committee.—Sergt. Franklin Bouker, Sergt. Austin E. Allen, Sergt. Thos. A. Patteson; Finance Committee.—Corp. Oscar Messina, Corp. D. M. Brady; Court-martial.—Corp. Edwin H. Smith, Pvts. Laridon, Roe, Roimaine; Armory Committee.—Pvts. Adams, Jones, Madden, L. A. Richards.

The entire Second Division has been furnished with General Brownell's street riot tactics as a text book.

The attention of Commanding Officers is called to the requirements of Par. X. of G. O. 9, series of 1880, and Par. III. of G. O. 15, series of 1883, from State headquarters. Constant complaints are received that these reports are not made promptly—and in some instances not at all—to the Inspector-General, who is therefore unable to certify to the amounts due to organizations under section 98 of the Military Code. Commanding officers will hereafter comply strictly with the above quoted paragraphs of orders, and those who have failed to do so, will forward the returns called for, at once. Failure to comply with this order will hereafter cause the forfeiture of the allowance from the State.

Capt. Coleman, of the 69th, is now the subject of a Court of Inquiry (Brig. Gen. Louis Fitzgerald). The matter investigated is the mustering of two members of the 9th as members of the 69th, during the encampment at Peekskill, which was extensively discussed at the time.

Thirty-second N. Y.—Col. Louis Finkelmeier.

The 32d assembled at the Armory, Williamsburgh, at 8 P. M. Monday, Jan. 12, for review by Maj. Gen. E. L. Molineux and presentation of marksmen's badges by Maj. M. B. Farr, of Gen. Brownell's staff. The little Armory was handsomely decorated, and the command evidently intended to show off to their best advantage. They succeeded well in steadiness while standing in ranks, but their passage in review with 9 commands of 12 files was executed with defective distances and alignment, and detracted much from the effect of the whole. It is a questionable matter whether a review should be attempted at all in an Armory with such limited dimensions, and it is certain that no command, be it ever so well drilled, could here make a passage with regularity and precision. Our remarks on this score are therefore simply a statement of facts and not a criticism. Gen. Molineux expressed himself well satisfied with the general aspect of the command, and the improvements which has taken place during the last few years. If Col. Finkelmeier would execute his reviews by dividing the command into wings stationed in rear of each other as introduced years ago by Gen. Brownell in the Armory of the 47th, he might obtain increased regularity and precision. Major Farr presented badges to 61 marksmen. Col. Finkelmeier was agreeably surprised by the presentation of a handsome badge and a beautifully engrossed set of resolutions on behalf of the non-commissioned officers "with the renewed expression of our high appreciation of our Colonel, both as a friend and officer." Gen. Molineux made the presentation. A ball, which was enjoyed with all the thoroughness peculiar to the class from which the 32d mainly draws its recruits, wound up the occasion.

NORTH CAROLINA.

The Board of Officers, consisting of Adjutant Gen. Johnston Jones, Colonels F. H. Cameron, John W. Cotten; Captain A. E. Ellington, Lieut. T. R. Robertson and Private John L. Cantwell, convened for the purpose of preparing regulations for the North Carolina State Guard, have recently completed their labors, and the result is a practical, compact little volume, based on army regulations whenever applicable. The little volume, of which we have received a copy, contains much valuable matter for the citizen soldier, and reflects credit on the Board who prepared it. The regulations have been approved and adopted by the Commander-in-Chief.

Inspector General Cameron says: "We take much pride and interest in our State Guard, which is now, I expect, the best uniformed, equipped and organized body of State troops south of Mason and Dixon's line. Four regiments and one battalion."

CONNECTICUT.

The following are appointments on Governor Harrison's staff, to take rank from Jan. 8, 1885: Stephen R. Smith, of New Haven, adjutant general; Arthur L. Goodrich, of Hartford, quartermaster general; Henry P. Geib, of Stamford, surgeon general; Frederick Barton, of New Haven, commissary general; Henry C. Dwight, of Hartford, paymaster general; all with the rank of brigadier general. William C. Mowry, of Norwich, William E. Hyde, of Killingly, Tracy B. Warren, of Bridgeport, and Charles H. R. Nott, of New Haven, to be aides, with the rank of colonel.

General Smith also announces the following: George M. White, of New Haven, colonel and adjutant general; Bernard F. Blakeslee, of Hartford, lieutenant colonel and assistant quartermaster general.

These gentlemen are fully equipped for service at a moment's notice, having been handsomely fitted out by the well-known firm of J. H. McKenney and Co., of 141 Grand street, New York City, where, at a

recent visit, we noticed their uniforms ready for shipment. Mr. McKenney has recently had quite a run on staff uniforms, and it is only a short while since the entire staff of the Governor of Vermont were fitted out by this establishment.

PENNSYLVANIA.

Col. F. L. Hitchcock, of the 13th Penna., the "shooting regiment," has published the results obtained by his command before the butts, during the past year at home as well as at Creedmoor, in an elaborate order, which gives the record in detail. While we have not the room here to enter minutely into the matter, there is no doubt that Col. Hitchcock as well as his I. R. P., Lieut. W. B. Henwood, have conducted the rifle matters of the regiment with unusual interest and diligence, and the result is one of which they as well as the command may look with pride.

MASSACHUSETTS.

Adjutant-General Samuel R. Dalton, reports the authorized force of the entire militia, as 336 officers, and 4,486 enlisted men. At the annual drills there were in the State service 285 officers and 3,935 enlisted men, 274 officers and 3,043 men of whom did active duty, an increase over last year of 17 officers and 399 enlisted men. Their total expense to the State was \$134,505.83. At the State rifle match, the reduction in the list of absentees of the previous year was nearly 25 per cent. The strength of the active militia at the present time is 306 officers and 3,881 enlisted men. He further says that a decided improvement has been manifested in the personnel, drill and discipline. The events of the year have shown the importance of a well disciplined force, and it is gratifying to be able to record an increasing sentiment on the part of the community in favor of the militia. The plan of disbanding companies in inefficient condition, and the substitution of new, has been attended with good results. Constant progress and improvement have been made in the heavy artillery branch of the service, and the entire 1st regiment is now being instructed in this drill. Since last report, helmets of the Regular Army pattern have been issued in place of the worn and obsolete dress hats previously in use, carbines of the Springfield pattern, with the necessary accoutrements, have been issued to the cavalry organizations. Much improvement in the manner of the care for State property has been made by company commanders and others responsible for military property, and, whilst there are still some losses, they have materially diminished. Under the painstaking and excellent management of Col. Horace T. Rockwell, assistant inspector-general, detailed as inspector-general of rifle practice, this important branch of the service has made commendable progress. Passing to the inspector general's report we find that that officer pronounces the militia as a whole to be in good condition, well officered, and showing a desire on the part of both officers and men for continued progress, for which they are entitled to credit. Detailed inspections at encampments having been done away with, a new system of armory inspections was instituted and every armory in the State was visited by the officers of the department and thoroughly inspected, together with the command and its condition, and the condition of both carefully ascertained. The result of their inspections shows that 44 organizations were found to be in good condition, 20 of which could be termed excellent, and 7 in poor. Some of these poor organizations had recently elected new officers who were infusing life with every indication of success, and three have been disbanded in general orders, on report of this department.

It was too often the case that lieutenants were not familiar with the exercise of command, and this ought to be accorded them, that practice may lead to perfection. Captains should allow subalterns to drill the company as often as practicable, to enable them to become accustomed to giving orders and acquainted with their execution, and enable the men to become usual to them, when called upon to take the command.

MARRIED.

BELL—RANSOM.—At the residence of Col. George Gibson, Fort Missoula, Montana, on Monday, Jan. 5, 1885, by the Rev. Father Palladino, S. J., Lieut. GEORGE BELL, Jr., 3d Infantry, to Miss MINNIE HUNTY RANSOM, daughter of General Robert Ransom, formerly of the U. S. Army, and niece of Mrs. Gibson. No Cards.

BRONAUGH—EDMUND.—At Hopkinsville, Ky., January 8, Ensign W. V. BRONNAUGH, U. S. N., to Miss MARY EDMUND.

CRAWFORD—GOODALL.—At the Church of the Ascension, Washington, D. C., Jan. 14, by the Rev. Dr. Elliott, Rector, Lieut. MEDOREM CRAWFORD, Second Artillery, and LOLA GOODALL.

NAUMAN—PETERS.—At Portland, Me., Jan. 7, Passed Assistant Engineer WILLIAM H. NAUMAN, U. S. N., to Miss MAY PETERS, daughter of George C. Peters, Esq.

DIED.

CLENDENIN.—At Galesburg, Ill., December 26, of consumption, SUSIE DUNN, wife of Paul Clendenin, M. D., and daughter-in-law of Lieutenant Colonel D. R. Clendenin, 3d U. S. Cavalry.

EUSTIS.—At Cambridge, Mass., Jan. 11, Professor HENRY LAWRENCE EUSTIS, formerly Lieutenant Corps of Engineers, U. S. A., and Brigadier General U. S. Volunteers.

FORD.—At Oneida, Ill., December 30, 1884, in his 87th year, Mr. DYER FORD, father-in-law of Lieutenant Colonel D. R. Clendenin, 3d U. S. Cavalry.

GAINES.—At New Orleans, La., January 9, Mrs. MYRA CLARK GAINES, widow of the late Brigadier and Brevet Major General Edmund P. Gaines, U. S. Army.

MAHON.—At Ottumwa, Iowa, Jan. 11, Captain STEPHEN K. MAHON, U. S. Army, retired.

PALEN.—At Camden, N. J., December 13, Chaplain VINCENT PALEN, U. S. Navy, retired.

STEELE.—At San Antonio, Texas, Jan. 12, General WILLIAM STEELE, formerly Captain 2d U. S. Dragoons.

SUTTON.—At the Soldiers' Home, Dayton, Ohio, January 7, JOHN D. SUTTON, formerly of the U. S. Navy.

VULTE.—Jan. 3, at the residence of her son, New York City, PAMELA L., widow of Frederick L. Vulte, and mother of the wife of Capt. W. P. McCann, and of the wife of Captain Henry Erben, U. S. N.

Ephraim Stearns of Waltham, has been announced as Assistant Quartermaster General on the staff of the Commander-in-Chief. The 1st Infantry, having won the first trophy at the State Rifle Match for 1884, becomes entitled to carry the silken scarf on its colors for the year 1885. Colonel B. F. Bridges, commanding 2nd Infantry, will turn the scarf over to Col. A. C. Wellington.

THE OMAHA MILITIA.

THE Omaha (Neb.) *Excelstor*, Dec. 20, says: The Omaha Light Guards are about to solicit from our citizens aid in procuring uniforms, rifles, etc. A company like this should be aided in every way. Aside from being a protection, they promise to be useful at large fires, and serviceable as escort to distinguished visitors and in public demonstrations. A circular has been issued to this effect, bearing the names of A. A. Scott, secretary; E. G. Crap, captain, and M. P. O'Brien, 1st lieutenant.

(Correspondence of the Army and Navy Journal.)

OHIO.

CAPTAIN H. H. Brown, of Company B, 8th Regiment, has resigned. He was the senior captain of the Ohio Guard. When he took command of his company it was one of the best in the State; he leaves it very much depressed in spirit and depleted in numbers. Captain Brown worked hard for the good of his command, but lacked that ingenuity so essential to a successful National Guard captain. 1st Lieutenant Noble was elected to fill the vacancy; 2d Lieutenant Bartlet fills Noble's place, and 1st Sergeant Peck takes the vacant place of Bartlet. Captain A. F. Whittaker and 1st Lieutenant L. B. Arkwright of Company C, 8th Regiment, Youngstown, have resigned—result of trouble in the company. These were good officers and their resignation is to be regretted. A few days ago the Brooks Corps, of Cleveland, gave their annual prize drill. This company is composed of bright young men, who are determined to make their corps a crack company.

The third annual prize drill of the Brooks Corps, which took place recently at their armory in Sibley street, was attended by large company of ladies and gentlemen. The drill was conducted by Captain Fisher, of the corps, and the prizes were awarded by Captain F. A. Kendall, of the 25th Infantry, United States Army. The prizes, two in number, consisted of a heavy gold bar and pendant, with crossed muskets and other military trappings. The first must be won three and the second two consecutive years to become the personal property of the winner. There were fourteen contestants, and from these six were selected for the final trial. At the close the first prize was awarded to Corporal G. H. Gardner, who last year won the second prize, and the second was given to Private F. S. Collins. This first prize was won last year by J. H. Hunie.

Ohio's best drilled company, the Wooster City Guard, gave their annual dress drill and ball as the old year went out. The exhibition was the finest this company has ever given. The entertainment

opened with a company drill, ten fours, under command of Captain J. A. Ogden. Then followed a skirmish drill, under Lieutenant Hard; both company and skirmish drills were handsomely executed. A picked twelve gave a mystic drill and another twelve gave a drill on roller skates; these were very entertaining and were received with much applause. The ball was an elegant affair. Music was furnished by the 8th Regiment Band of Akron. Among the visitors were Company H, of the 17th Regiment, Lakeview, Captain Moore commanding; Colonel L. Conger, 8th Akron; and Lieutenant A. C. Sharp, U. S. A.

F. G. S.

(Correspondence of the Army and Navy Journal.)

MISSOURI.

FIRST REGIMENT, MISSOURI N. G.

THE National Guardsmen of Missouri labor under one disadvantage unknown to their more fortunate comrades of the Middle and Eastern States. They receive no aid from the State Government. Not a single dollar is ever appropriated by the State Legislature for the support or encouragement of the National Guard of this wealthy and populous State. Whatever money is expended is raised by the voluntary contributions of the Citizens' Associations, augmented by the small sum accruing from dues and fines of the members. This complete ignoring of the needs of the National Guard is in harmony with the narrow policy displayed by the State in other directions; such, for instance, as its laws forbidding the employment of foreign capital within its limits, and the freezing out of insurance companies whose home offices are in the East.

In the City of St. Louis the Citizens' Association has voluntarily and generously undertaken to supply the place that should be occupied by the Legislature, in fostering the National Guard, and out of the fund raised by the members of the association personally soliciting subscriptions for this purpose, has been built a fairly good armory, with a large drill hall. In addition to this unusual outlay, a portion of the fund raised was set aside to pay each member of the Guard a small sum for his attendance at one evening drill a week. This last feature might be initiated with good effect by some of the Legislatures of States more generous in their policies and more just to the citizen soldier than the Legislature of Missouri.

Since the portion of the armory that includes the drill hall has been so far completed as to permit of its being used, a new impetus has been given to the instruction of the First Regiment in the "School of the Battalion." The regiment consists of three battalions, of four companies each, and as each battalion drills by itself on the evening on which the hall is specially reserved for its use, there has arisen between the battalions a healthy and most beneficial emulation.

Colonel L. L. Langdon, of the Regular Army, was recently invited by Colonel E. D. Meir, commanding the First Regiment, N. G. M., to witness one of these drills, and from a letter written by him we have been permitted to make the following extracts:

The companies present in ranks for battalion drill were A, B, I, and L of the 1st Regiment National Guard of Missouri. These companies were commanded respectively by Captain John H. Cookson, Capt. J. L. Beck, Capt. J. Howard Caverder, and Capt. R. R. Tilley. The battalion, for purposes of instruction, was this evening under the command of Lieut.-Col. Cyrus P. Walbridge, who was assisted by Capt. W. P. Hazard, acting as adjutant, and Capt. Edward Badorf, acting as sergeant-major. The unfinished ceiling of the drill hall, with its numerous braces and cross ties, caused such echoes from the different quarters that the sounds of marching was often confusedly mingled with the voice of command. This made it a difficult matter for the subordinate officers to hear the orders distinctly.

Notwithstanding this drawback, the movements were well executed. But, from the causes mentioned, they were much better executed from a halt than while marching. Col. Walbridge handled the battalion well, and the company commanders caught the orders promptly, and as promptly executed their part of them. There was one refreshing feature in the drill: the men "dressed" promptly, and the captains were quick to give the command "front," thus saving much time. The marksmen did not seem to understand their business very well, and the men generally, in marching, failed to plant the feet as directed in the "School of the Soldier," and they showed a deficiency in the "setting up drill," as explained in the "four exercises." But there was an enthusiasm in everything that was done that more than compensated for these little shortcomings of minor, yet necessary, importance. The "distances" were most accurately and constantly preserved by the groups of fours. I never have seen distances so well preserved as I saw them to-night. After marching for several minutes in column of fours, line would suddenly be formed, and as the fours wheeled every elbow touched.

The last half of the drill was under the immediate charge of Col. Meir himself. Before the drill was over the marksmen had made up for all previous inadvertence. One cannot do everything at once, and it takes time to perfect a battalion in its movements and teach every man his duty. The drills are long and very interesting, and even in this one evening, the command made a noticeable improvement. The officers and men are young, enthusiastic, and in no way discouraged by the lack of State interest, as they are slowly, but surely, winning the respect of the citizens by their high character and professional zeal.

As an evidence of their zeal I will mention the fact that though each battalion is required to drill but once a week, it actually drills two evenings in a week—every man, unless he is necessarily absent, thus voluntarily having an extra drill every week, and this drill often three hours long.

The armory is in part occupied by the 1st Battery of Light Artillery, and Troop A of the Cavalry, N. G. of Missouri. The cavalry has its stables in the building, and in the stalls I counted fifteen serviceable horses owned by the troop, and purchased by money subscribed by the Citizens' Association. Whenever a member feels like taking a little horseback exercise he can lead a horse out from the stable and exercise him in the arena at his leisure. The animals are under the care of a man regularly employed for the purpose and paid by the troop, and are well groomed.

The guns of the artillery are four 3-inch rifles and two Gatlings. The artillery drills generally twice a week, though the men are in and out of the armory at all hours every evening, as are the cavalry, drilling, or discussing military matters.

In conclusion, I must credit these Missouri National Guardsmen with the possession of the spirit that makes good, efficient, and valuable soldiers. They are intelligent, high spirited, and patriotic. Their earnestness is best proved by the progress they have already achieved, and their patriotism by the exertions and by the sacrifices they have made for a State that officially has hardly recognized their existence. Whenever and wherever the 1st Missouri is brought into competition with other troops, the results of this winter's energetic work will be seen to the advantage of the Missouri troops.



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NOTED AMERICAN DUELS.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal:

There appeared lately in the JOURNAL, a list of the duels that have taken place in the United States. While not purporting to be complete, the list contained the names of so many obscure individuals who were probably never heard of until shot into notoriety, that it was not an unnatural inference that the compiler of the list had given all duels of which he had any cognizance. There was no mention made in that list, of Lieut. Massie, of the Light Artillery Regiment, now the "Old Fighting First" Artillery, who was, so tradition says, killed on Christmas Day in 1817, by Lieutenant Lane, at Fort Independence, Boston Harbor. There was a monument placed on the spot where the duel was fought. It stands there yet, on a lonely, unfrequented spot on the northwestern point of the island on which the fort is built. I visited the place in 1868. The monument was then in good state of preservation. It is nearly five feet in height; is made of white marble, in shape a cube surmounted by a truncated pyramid, after the Roman model, and stands about ninety feet from the water's edge, on the plateau that abruptly ends there some four feet above the sea level. It is by no means a conspicuous object in the landscape, but of a bright, sunny day it gleams white against the green glaciæ, and one can catch a distant glimpse of it from the deck of the Government steamer en route to Fort Warren.

Whether correct or not, the story of the duel is to

this effect: that Massie was something of a dandy, claiming to be descended from a good family and somewhat supercilious in his manners, particularly in the mess-room. Lane was a promotion from the ranks, and, taking offence at Massie's treatment of him at the mess-table, challenged and shot him dead on Christmas morning.

Nothing was ever done to Lane, who was believed to have acted in a perfectly manly way. But, though justified in the eyes of his comrades, he was to his dying day the victim of remorse. On each succeeding anniversary of the duel, Lane shut himself in his room the whole day, to brood over and regret the tragedy, and he often made pilgrimages to the tomb of his antagonist, to which previous allusion appears to be made in one of the inscriptions on the monument. A copy of these inscriptions has been kindly sent to me by Ordnance Sergeant Thomas McGuire, U. S. A., in charge of the abandoned post, and they are here given, not only on account of the interest they may possess for the readers of the JOURNAL, but in the hope that some student of by-gone days, can throw some additional light on the story.

[North side].

Beneath this stone
are deposited
the remains of
Lieutenant Robert F. Massie,
of the
U. S. Regt. of Light Artillery.

[South side].

Near this spot
on the 25th of December, 1817,
fell
Lieutenant Robert F. Massie.
Aged, 21 years.

[West side].

Here Honor comes a pilgrim gray,
To deck the turf that wraps his clay.

[East side].

The officers of the U. S.
Regiment of Light Artillery,
erected this monument as a
testimony of their respect
and friendship for an
amiable man
and
gallant officer.

There is also a tradition in Pensacola, of a duel fought on the north beach of Santa Rosa Island, a short distance above Fort Pickens, sometime about

the year 1838. I have been able to learn but little of that affair, and for that little I am indebted to the recollection and to the courtesy of my friend Admiral Bryson, U. S. Navy. He says in reference to this duel: "All I can now remember of what I heard at the time (forty-six years ago) is this: A difficulty occurred in relation to a boat race at Pensacola, between Lieutenant Munn, of the U. S. Navy, and a civilian, I think, of Mobile. A duel was the result, and the civilian was killed at the first fire."

Perhaps some one can give more particulars of this affair, and the name of the citizen killed.

L. L. LANGDON, U. S. A.

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It is reported that the Czar will assume the additional title of Emperor of Central Asia, and that there will be a grand coronation ceremony at Samarcand.

SPECIMENS of the wood used in the construction of the transport boats furnished to the Nile expedition, sent to the British Admiralty, have been found to be rotten and entirely unfit for use. An official inquiry has been ordered into the matter. The Spectator urges the government to prosecute the contractors who supplied the boats and secure a sentence of penal servitude against them.

REPRESENTATIVES of the Spanish Government have recently been in England inspecting the various establishments where heavy ordnance is manufactured, and at Sheffield have placed an order for the plant necessary to produce gun forgings of the largest kind. In Spain there are already in course of construction large steel and iron works, which will have the advantage of being near to the famous hematite ores of the Bilbao Mountains.

RECENTLY the tomb of Edward III. in Westminster Abbey was opened, and the body of "Longshanks," as he was called, was found in a remarkably good state of preservation. The flesh of the face had turned to a yellow powder, but the part in the hair was still there, and the shape and form of the body remained intact. Around the head was a narrow silver band, on which was engraved his name. The remains were placed in the tomb 600 years ago.

A SERIES of experiments have recently been conducted at Spezzia to ascertain the effect of torpedoes on a keel vessel of the type of the iron-clad *Italia*. Her steel plates were displaced and bent and the water entered her compartments, but she maintained her position. The result is regarded as showing the effect of torpedoes is overrated, and that they are insufficient for the defence of ports.

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